



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9059

BY REPRESENTATIVES QUIMBO, ACOP, TAN (A.), DALIPE, NIETO, BELMONTE (R.), AMANTE, TAMBUNTING, VILLARICA, ANTONIO, CATAMCO, GARIN (S.), COLLANTES, NAVA, ORTEGA (V.N.), BAGATSING, ROA-PUNO, GONZALES (A.P.), DE VENECIA, NOEL, LOPEZ (B.), CERILLES, LABADLABAD, LOBREGAT, UYBARRETA, CORTUNA, VELASCO-CATERA, PICHAY, SARMIENTO (E.M.), MERCADO, VILLARIN, TEJADA, BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN, ACOSTA-ALBA, ROMAN, SALON, OLIVAREZ, KHO, GERON, BAGUILAT, ROMUALDO, BRAVO (A.), CANAMA, FLORES, ACOSTA, MADRONA, CORTES, CALDERON, PACQUIAO, ALMONTE, CUEVA, FERRIOL-PASCUAL, BILLONES, PALMA, CAYETANO, NUÑEZ-MALANYAON, GATCHALIAN, SY-ALVARADO, MARIÑO, BRAVO (M.V.), VILLAFUERTE, GARCIA (G.), ESTRELLA, TEVES, BIAZON, LOPEZ (M.L.), VELOSO, BATAOIL, REVILLA AND CHIPECO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1217

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION ON BOMB THREATS, EXPLOSIVES, OR ANY OTHER LIFE-THREATENING OR DESTRUCTIVE MATERIALS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the
2 “Anti-False Bomb Threat Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State shall ensure the
4 protection of the public from the dissemination of false information

1 on bomb threats, explosives, or any life-threatening or destructive
2 materials which cause damaging effects to life and property.

3 SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

4 (a) *Bomb* refers to a container filled with explosive,
5 incendiary material, smoke, gas, or other destructive substance,
6 designed to explode. It can appear obvious or concealed and can
7 vary in size, shape or sophistication and may not necessarily
8 explode such as in the case of incendiary and dirty bombs. It may be
9 referred to as Improvised Explosives Device (IED) or ordnance;

10 (b) *Explosive* refers to any material that causes a sudden,
11 almost instantaneous, release of gas, heat, and pressure,
12 accompanied by a loud noise when subjected to a certain amount of
13 shock pressure, or temperature;

14 (c) *High density areas* refer to areas which are regularly
15 populated with people, including public spaces like public parks,
16 airports, seaports, hotels and malls, or where people are gathered
17 for an event;

18 (d) *Incendiary device* refers to a weapon designed to start
19 fires or destroy sensitive equipment using fire, that uses materials
20 such as napalm, thermite, magnesium poser, chlorine trifluoride, or
21 white phosphorus;

22 (e) *Life-threatening or destructive material* refers to any
23 matter or substance that is capable of causing death, including an
24 explosive; incendiary device; poison gas; mine; grenade; a rocket
25 having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces; a missile
26 having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter
27 ounce; any type of weapon, other than a shotgun or shotgun shell,
28 by whatever name known which will, or which may be readily
29 converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other
30 propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than

1 one-half inch in diameter; or any combination of parts either
2 designed or intended for use in converting any device into a
3 destructive device described above and from which a destructive
4 device may be readily assembled; and

5 (f) *Sensitive areas* refer to those which are subject to
6 high-risk upon violation of this Act because of the magnitude of the
7 resulting consequences such as possible losses in productivity,
8 resources, and religious value, notwithstanding the number of
9 people present therein, including educational institutions, offices,
10 government institutions, hospitals, and churches and other places of
11 worship.

12 SEC. 4. *Prohibition.* – Any person who, by word of mouth or
13 through the use of the mail, electronic mail, telephone, cellular
14 phone, fax machine, telegraph, printed materials, social media and
15 other instrument or means of communication, makes any threat or
16 conveys, communicates, transmits, imparts, passes on, or otherwise
17 disseminates false information, knowing the same to be false,
18 concerning an attempt or alleged attempt being made to kill, injure,
19 or intimidate any individual or group or to unlawfully damage or
20 destroy any building, vehicle, or other real or personal property, by
21 means of explosives, incendiary devices, and other destructive forces
22 of similar nature or characteristics, shall be penalized as prescribed
23 in Section 5 hereof.

24 SEC. 5. *Penalties.* – (a) Any person who violates this Act
25 shall be subject to imprisonment of not more than one (1) year or a
26 fine not exceeding Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00), or both, at the
27 discretion of the court having jurisdiction over the offense herein
28 defined and penalized.

29 (b) If the violation of this Act is directed at high density
30 areas or sensitive areas and causes the evacuation of a dwelling,

1 building, place of assembly, facility, including public transportation,
2 aircraft, ship and other common carriers, or the stoppage,
3 cancellation or disruption of any kind of service to the public, or
4 results to death or deaths in relation to the chaos created therein,
5 or losses in productivity and resources, the penalty shall be
6 imprisonment of not more than five (5) years or a fine not exceeding
7 One million pesos (P1,000,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the
8 court having jurisdiction over the offense herein defined and
9 penalized.

10 The foregoing penalties shall be imposed without prejudice to
11 other liabilities under the Revised Penal Code or any special law,
12 arising out of, or on occasion of the herein prohibited act.

13 SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is
14 held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected
15 thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

16 SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Presidential Decree No. 1727,
17 otherwise known as “Declaring as Unlawful the Malicious
18 Dissemination of False Information of the Willful Making of Any
19 Threat Concerning Bombs, Explosives or Any Similar Device or
20 Means of Destruction and Imposing Penalties Therefor”, is hereby
21 repealed. All other laws, executive orders, proclamations, rules and
22 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to this
23 Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

24 SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
25 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of
26 general circulation.

Approved,