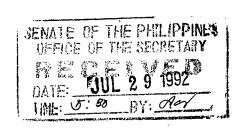
Congress of the Philippines)
First Regular Session )

SENATE S. No. 570



Introduced by Senator Orlando S. Mercado

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill is self-explanatory, and the urgent need for its passage is self-evident: it seeks to repeal a statute, which from its inception was ill-conceived and vulnerable to attack on grounds of unconstitutionality, and during its 35-year existence proved to be ineffective, if not counter-productive, in addressing the problem of insurgency and national security.

In his state-of-the nation address, the President said:

"Finally, I ask Congress to repeal Republic Act No. 1700, as amended, so that the Communist Party of the Philippines and similar organizations will no longer be outlawed but allowed to compete freely, openly and peacefully in the political, economic and social arena instead of their following the path of the armed struggle.

Peace is a process. And we must all join hands to bind and heal the conflicts that have so long divided and held us back."

We agree. It is time that this anachronism is deleted from the statute books so that the peace process may begin.

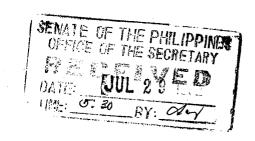
Allowing the CPP and similar groups to compete freely, openly and peacefully in the political, economic and social arena will pave the way for a genuine reconciliation.

Hence, the approval of this measure is earnestly and urgently requested.

ORLANDO S. MERCADO

Senator

Senate of the Philippines)
M a n i l a )



SENATE

s. No. <u>5/0</u>

Introduced by Senator Orlando S. Mercado

AN ACT
REPEALING IN ITS ENTIRETY REPUBLIC ACT 1700
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-SUBVERSION ACT

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

SECTION 1. Republic Act 1700, otherwise known, as the Anti-Subversion Act, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. Approved,