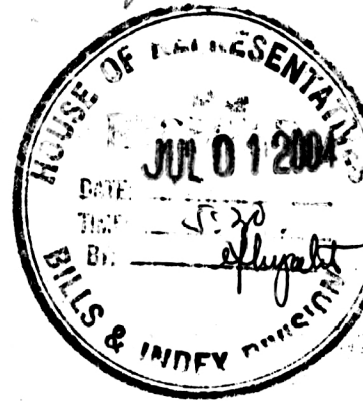


Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1029



Introduced by GABRIELA Women's Party List
Representative Liza Largoza-Maza

Explanatory Note

The State recognizes the importance and impact of broadcast media, specially television and radio programs, in raising people's awareness. This imposes upon the broadcast industry the social and corporate responsibility of ensuring that its activities serve the Filipino people's interest and welfare. Broadcast networks, therefore, have a serious obligation to propagate good values through responsible programming.

One such value that needs dissemination is the upholding and advocacy of women's and girls' human rights, welfare, development and gender sensitivity and equality.

It is therefore proposed through this bill that a significant portion of air time of all the programming of the broadcast media be devoted to the promotion, protection and advocacy of women's and girls' human rights, welfare, development and gender sensitivity and equality.

Immediate passage of this bill is urgently requested.

Liza Largoza-Maza
LIZA LARGOZA-MAZA

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AN ACT
REQUIRING WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS PROGRAMS IN
MEDIA, PROVIDING INCENTIVES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Title. — This Act shall be known as the "Women's and Girls' Human Rights Awareness Program in Media Act of 2003."

SECTION 2. Allotment of Air Time for Women's Human Rights Programs. — No broadcasting network, both television and radio, shall be granted or allowed to renew its franchise or broadcast license, unless a minimum of fifteen percent (15%) of its daily total air time within its regular programming, is allotted for women's and girls' human rights programs and shows, as part of the network's public service and corporate responsibility.

SECTION 3. Content. — Programs and shows advocating women's and girls' human rights as referred to in this Act shall include, but shall not be limited to, lives of Filipina heroines, Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003, Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995, UN Declaration on the Rights of Women,

SECTION 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — The Philippine Information Agency and the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women in coordination with women's organizations and the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas, shall formulate the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act including the appropriate incentives, and monitor the implementation thereof and compliance therewith.

SECTION 5. Fiscal Incentives. — Broadcasting networks shall be entitled to appropriate tax incentives and programs necessary for the promotion of women's and girls' human rights programs and shows including, but not limited to, additional deduction from taxable income a certain percentage of expenses incurred in production and which shall be deductible during the financial year the same were incurred.

Broadcasting networks availing of incentives provided under this Act shall still be eligible to incentives provided by other special laws; *Provided*, That there is no double availment of the same incentives.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions thereof.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity Clause. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved: