

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **1440**



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**Introduced by: HON. HUSSIN U. AMIN**

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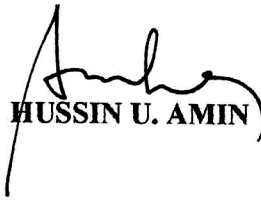
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Revised Penal Code, the primary source of criminal laws in the country, has been in existence for more than seven (7) decades now having been passed into law on January 1, 1932. Since then, a number of special criminal laws have been passed either to amend the Revised Penal Code or supplement it.

However, even with the amendments to the Revised Penal Code, it is still widely believed that some provisions of the Revised Penal Code needs to be reviewed in order to be attuned to the needs of the present. The review shall also serve as venue to incorporate the special criminal laws in order to have a comprehensive Penal Code.

It is therefore imperative for Congress to create a special committee to thoroughly and comprehensively review the Revised Penal Code. This is necessary to have a code which is reflective of the current situation and a ready reference for interested parties.

Thus, passage of this measure is sincerely urged.

  
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**AN ACT**  
**CREATING A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE REVISED PENAL CODE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

Section 1. *Creation of Penal Code Review Committee.* It is hereby created a Revised Penal Code Special Review Committee to review the Revised Penal Code, recommend to Congress revisions and amendments to the Code, incorporating thereto whenever applicable, other existing special criminal and penal laws.

The Special Review Committee shall be given three (3) years from the effectivity of this Act to make the review and submit to Congress its findings and recommendations.

Section 2. *Composition.* The members of the Committee, shall be appointed by the President and shall be composed of the following:

- a. Three (3) Criminal Law professors of distinguished record preferably representing Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.
- b. One (1) representatives of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines.
- c. One (1) retired Supreme Court Justice.

d. Two (2) representatives of the private sector

The Secretary of the Department of Justice, a member of the House of Representatives and that of the Senate shall also sit in the Committee as ex-officio members.

The retired justice shall be the presiding officer over the meetings of the Committee which shall make their own rules governing the conduct of such meetings.

Section 3. *Appropriation and Honorarium of Members of the Committee.* Except for the ex-officio members, each member of the Committee shall be entitled to a Two Thousand Pesos (2,000.00) honorarium per session to be charged out of any available funds from the House of Representatives, not otherwise appropriated.

Subsequent appropriation shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the ensuing year.

Section 4. *Separability Clause.* Any provision of this Act which may be declared unconstitutional shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions thereof.

Section 5. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 6. *Effectivity.* This act shall take effect 15 days after publication in at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation and in the Official Gazette.

Approved.