

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1914



Introduced by the Honorable ROILO GOLEZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Relatives of victims of heinous crimes want "swift justice" which is possible when the death penalty is implemented immediately and without hesitation. There is an argument that gives weight to the victim's rights as well as to the relatives left behind. For them, justice can only be achieved with the immediate enforcement of the law in the same swiftness the crime was committed.

In our democracy, their voices need also to be articulated, hence the extant measure.

The original intent of the House version (HN 6147) of Republic Act No. 8177 was for "sentence to be carried out six months after the judgement has become final." The bill proposes to limit the waiting period from six (6) months to one (1) year instead of the present period of one (1) year to eighteen (18) months.

Immediate action on this measure is requested.


ROILO GOLEZ

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AN ACT
FURTHER AMENDING ARTICLE 81 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS
AMENDED BY SECTION 24 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7659 BY LIMITING
THE WAITING PERIOD IN CARRYING OUT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Article 81 of the Revised Penal Code, as amended by Section 24 of Republic Act No. 7659 is further amended to read as follows:

"Art. 81. When and how the death penalty is to be executed. - x

"The death sentence shall be carried out not earlier than [one (1) year] SIX (6) MONTHS nor later than [eighteen (18) months] ONE (1) YEAR after the judgement has become final and executory without prejudice to the exercise by the President of his executive clemency powers at all times."

SEC. 2. All laws, presidential decrees and issuances, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,