

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1922



Introduced by Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Illegal Drugs are said to be the root of all evils. Many crimes are borne out of drug intoxication. Latest records of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) show that most sex crimes were drug related. This only shows how damaging drugs can be to minds of its victims and how it can lead them and the society to the path of self destruction. Realizing the gravity of drug offenses, government declared them as heinous and punishable by death.

Again in recognition of the caustic consequences of illegal drugs, Congress have recently enacted Republic Act 9165, a Comprehensive Dangerous drugs Act of 2002 which would address the changing complexities of this social menace by maintaining the imposition of capital punishment for violation thereof.

Unfortunately, however, despite the imposition of the Death Penalty, the problem of illegal drugs continues to proliferate in the country. Since the government re-imposed Capital Punishment for heinous crimes in 1993, the number of persons convicted of drug-related offenses such as trafficking, manufacturing and drug pushing rose to alarming proportions, as if challenging the potency of execution by lethal injection in deterring crime. Death by lethal injection seemed to have failed to strike fear in the hearts of illegal drug offender, an indication that there is a need for a punishment that will have stronger impact on illegal drug violators.

This bill which seeks an amendment to Republic Act no.8177 (AN ACT DESIGNATING DEATH BY LETHAL INJECTION AS A METHOD CARRYING OUT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT) answers such need. It prescribes FIRING SQUAD that shall be carried out in public as a means of executing drug traffickers, manufacturers, pushers and the like.

Early passage of this bill is strongly urged.

ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS

A large, stylized handwritten signature of Robert Ace S. Barbers, written in black ink. The signature is composed of a large, sweeping loop followed by several vertical strokes.

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AN ACT
DESIGNATING FIRING SQUAD AS MEANS FOR CARRYING OUT
VIOLATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 9165 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002 AMENDING FOR
THAT PURPOSE SECTION 81 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE AS
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 8177

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of representatives of the Philippines in congress assembled.

SECTION 1. The first paragraph of article 8177 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“Article 81. When and how the death penalty is to be executed. The death sentence shall be executed with preference to any other penalty and shall consist in putting the person under the sentence to death by lethal injection; PROVIDED THAT, IN CASE OF IMPOSITION OF DEATH SENTENCE IS FOR VIOLATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.9165 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002, THE DEATH SENTENCE SHALL BE CARRIED OUT PUBLICLY BY FIRING SQUAD. The death sentence shall be executed under the authority of the Director of the Bureau of Corrections, endeavoring as far as possible to mitigate the sufferings prior to execution.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.