

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Thirteenth Congress

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3510



Introduced by Congressman Gregorio T. Ipong

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to rationalize the ownership and operation of telecommunication stations operated by government agencies and instrumentalities, including local government units and government owned or controlled corporations.

Telecommunication stations within the Philippines, except those owned and operated by the Armed Forces of the Philippines, are required to abide by the rules and regulations of the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC). These rules and regulations make it difficult for government agencies and instrumentalities, as well as local government units and government owned or controlled corporations operating telecommunication stations to mobilize their resources and capabilities and maximize their potentials towards the attainment of sustainable growth and development in their areas of jurisdiction which is contrary to the mandate of the Constitution as provided in Section 10, Article XVI thereof which states that, "the State shall provide the policy environment for the full development of Filipino capabilities and the emergence of communication structures suitable to the needs and aspirations of the nation and the balanced flow of information into, out of, and across the country, in accordance with a policy that respects the freedom of speech and of the press."

Cognizant of the constraints NTC regulation does to the efficiency of government agencies and instrumentalities, it is being proposed to free government agencies and instrumentalities operating telecommunication stations from such regulation.

In view of the foregoing considerations and in order to make the government more dynamic and responsive to the needs of the people, approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.

GREGORIO T. IPONG

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HOUSE BILL NO. 3510

Introduced by: **CONGRESSMAN GREGORIO T. IPONG**

AN ACT
RATIONALIZING THE OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION OF
TELECOMMUNICATION STATIONS OF ALL GOVERNMENT
AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES, INCLUDING THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND ALL GOVERNMENT
OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS

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

SECTION 1. Section 17 of Executive Order No. 546 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 17. *Telecommunication Stations Operated by the Armed Forces of the Philippines[.]* **AND BY ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES, INCLUDING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND ALL GOVERNMENT OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS.** – Telecommunication stations owned and operated by the Armed Forces of the Philippines **AND BY ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES, INCLUDING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND ALL GOVERNMENT OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS** shall not be subject to the provisions of this Executive Order except that all such stations shall use frequencies as may be allowed/assigned by the Commission.

SEC. 2. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,