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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 6094



Introduced by **Honorable Judy J. Syjuco**

AN ACT
PUNISHING THE CRIME OF KIDNAPPING-FOR-RANSOM
WITH AMPUTATION OF UPPER AND LOWER EXTREMITIES THEREBY
AMENDING ARTICLE 267 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There had been a tidal wave of kidnap-for-ransom cases in recent days that earned for our nation the negative reputation as the kidnap capital of the world. This has strained our diplomatic relations with several countries. It has gripped our national economy. It frightened foreign investments that now tend to move capital out of the country. It victimized both local and foreign nationals.

The perpetrators of kidnap-for-ransom should be dealt with punishments as severe as the crimes they commit against our lives, our property, and our rights under the Constitution. The crime of kidnapping-for-ransom is not as simple as taking a warm body in unlawful and illegitimate custody for the purpose of soliciting money in exchange of the victim's freedom. It has been proven to be vicious victimizing the middle or the moneyed class in body polity.

This should be stopped and the psychological deterrent for its further happenstance would be to impose amputation of the upper and lower extremities as the punishment for such crimes. It is not intended to be a cruel and inhumane punishment, it is only its consequence. As a matter of fact, we are giving the sentence of death a middle ground.

Approval of this bill is urgently sought therefor.


JUDY J. SYJUCO

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

SECTION 1. Article 267 of the Revised Penal Code, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Art. 267. *Kidnapping and serious illegal detention.* - Any private individual who shall kidnap or detain another, or in any other manner deprive him of his liberty, shall suffer the penalty of *reclusion perpetua* to death:

"1. If the kidnapping or detention shall have lasted more than three days.

"2. If it shall have been committed simulating public authority.

"3. If any serious physical injuries shall have been inflicted upon the person kidnapped or detained; or if threats to kill him shall have been made.

"4. If the person kidnapped or detained shall be a minor, except when the accused is any of the parents, female or a public officer.

"WHERE THE KIDNAPPING OR DETENTION WAS COMMITTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXTORTING RANSOM FROM THE VICTIM OR ANY OTHER PERSON, EVEN IF NONE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES ABOVE-MENTIONED WERE PRESENT IN THE COMMISSION OF THE OFFENSE, THE PENALTY SHALL BE AMPUTATION OF THE LOWER AND UPPER EXTREMITIES."

"When the victim is killed or dies as a consequence of the detention or is raped, or is subjected to torture or dehumanizing acts, the maximum penalty shall be imposed."

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation. The publication shall not be later than seven (7) days after the approval hereof.

Approved,