

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

15TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3047

Introduced by REP. SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure is being proposed to address the growing concern over the illegal use of police and military uniforms, insignia and dress in the commission of serious crimes.

News reports have continuously indicated the spate of violence being perpetrated by men flaunting themselves as agents of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) or the Philippine National Police (PNP), making use of such advantage to advance or ensure the success of their evil motive and intention.

It is submitted that by providing harsh penalties against the use of military and police uniforms, insignia and dress, individuals will be retrained from using them, especially criminals in the commission of other offences which could now result in the imposition of additional and separate penalties ranging from *prison correccional* to *prison mayor*.

It is also about time that we put value and respect to military and police uniforms, insignias and dress by stressing the significance that attaches to the privilege and authority of wearing them.

Early passage of this Bill is thus earnestly sought.



SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III
Representative
1ST District, Sorsogon

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AN ACT
PROVIDING STIFFER PENALTIES FOR THE ILLEGAL USE OF AFP (ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES) AND PNP (PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE) UNIFORMS, INSIGNIA OR DRESS AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE ARTICLE 179 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE

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

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

“ART. 179. *Illegal use of uniform and insignia.* – The penalty of *arresto mayor* shall be imposed upon any person who shall publicly and improperly make use of insignia, uniforms or dress pertaining to an office not held by such person or to a class of person of which he is not a member.

The penalty of *prison correccional* shall be imposed if the insignia, uniforms or dress illegally used shall pertain to an office and/or service of or under the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) OR THE Philippine National Police (PNP).

And the penalty of *prison mayor* shall be imposed if the illegal use of such insignia, uniforms or dress pertaining to an office and/or service of or under the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) or the Philippine National Police (PNP) shall be used for the commission of another crime or crimes such as but not limited to, kidnapping, carnapping, robbery and murder.

The imposition of the above penalties shall be treated as separate and independent of the other crime or crimes committed in the occasion of the above illegal use of insignia, uniforms or dress and shall not be absorbed by the crimes or crimes committed using as means such illegal use.

SEC. 2. All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and regulations contrary or inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least three (3) national newspaper of general circulation whichever comes first.

Approved,