

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fifteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 5545



Introduced by Honorable **RANULFO P. 'Dodong' CANONIGO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill which increases by one hundred percent (100%) the allowance for the good conduct being granted to prisoners in penal institutions, intends to turn reformed and rehabilitated prisoners into productive members of society, amending for the purpose Article 97 of Act No. 3815, as amended, otherwise known as the Revised Penal Code.

Article 97 of the Revised Penal Code entitles to allowances for good conduct which in effect reduces sentence in consideration of the good behavior during the period of incarceration. It should be noted, however, that the grant of good conduct time allowance must be significant enough to motivate the prisoners to maintain good deportment.

A shortened sentence period for many prisoners will facilitate earlier reintegration into the society and will help decongest overcrowded jails. This translates to a decrease in the overall cost of correction through jail decongestion and would prevent jailbreaks and riots as prisoners would be encouraged to devote their time and effort into more beneficial activities.

This proposed measure seeks to increase the allowance for good conduct to serve as an improved incentive for prisoners to fully rehabilitate themselves while in prison and reduce the incarceration period.

In view of the foregoing approval of this is earnestly sought.

RANULFO P. 'Dodong' CANONIG

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AN ACT INCREASING THE ALLOWANCE FOR GOOD CONDUCT GRANTED TO PRISONERS IN
PENAL INSTITUTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 97 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS
AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE.

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

SECTION 1. Article 97 of the Revised Penal Code is hereby amended to read as
follows:

"Article 97. **Allowance for good conduct.** - The good conduct of any prisoner
OR DETAINEE in any penal institution shall entitle him to the following deductions from
the period of his sentence:

1. During the first two years of his imprisonment, he shall be allowed a deduction of
[five] TEN days for each month of good behavior;
2. During the third to the fifth year, inclusive, of his imprisonment, he shall be
allowed a deduction of [eight] SIXTEEN days for each month of good behavior;
3. During the following years until the tenth year, inclusive, of his imprisonment, he
shall be allowed a deduction of [ten] TWENTY days for each month of good
behavior; and
4. During the eleventh and successive years of his imprisonment, he shall be
allowed a deduction of [fifteen] THIRTY days for each month of good behavior.

SECTION 2. Rules and Regulations. The Department of Justice shall, in coordination with the Director of Corrections, issue the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within thirty (30) days after its effectivity.

SECTION 3. Repealing Clause. All laws, executive orders, executive issuances, rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent or contrary to the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4. Separability Clause. In case any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,