

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

16th CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1585



Introduced by **REP. EVELINA G. ESCUDERO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

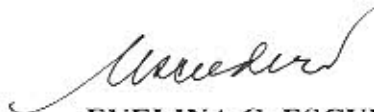
At present, the law seeks to thwart and decrease the likelihood of graft and corruption within the government. Existing law penalizes anyone who receives a present, gift or any material or financial advantage as well as those who, without being legally authorized to do so, actually intervene, directly or indirectly in any transactions, applications, requests or contract with the government.

Prior to receiving any gift or the actual act of intervening, however, is the offer or representation made by a person that he can influence the public official or employee required by law to intervene or be able to assist in a transaction, contract or request with the government which, up to now, remains unabated.

It is this gap which this bill seeks to fill by penalizing influence peddling or the mere act of representing oneself to another person having a transaction or request with the government thus effectively clipping corruption at its inception even before any gift or present is given and even before there has actually been an intervention in connection with such request or transaction.

The gap mentioned which this bill seeks to bridge by penalizing influence peddling or the act of representing oneself to another person having a transaction or request with the government thus effectively clipping corruption at its initiation even before any gift or present is given and before there has actually been an intervention in connection with such request or transaction.

If enacted, this bill is believed to be an effective deterrent to nip corruption at the bud and prior to any damage being inflicted upon government coffers as well as on our people with legitimate transactions or dealings with government.


EVELINA G. ESCUDERO

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AN ACT
PENALIZING INFLUENCE PEDDLING
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "*Anti-Influence Peddling*
2 *Act*".

3
4 **SECTION 2. Definition.** - It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in influence
5 peddling which is hereby defined as the act of representing oneself, either orally or in
6 writing, as being able, whether real or imagined, to influence, facilitate or assist another
7 person having some business, transaction, application, request or contract with the
8 government in which a public official or employee has to intervene.

9
10 **SECTION 3. Penalties for Violation.** - Any person who engages in influence
11 peddling as defined by this Act shall be punished by imprisonment of not more than six (6)
12 years or a fine not exceeding One Hundred Thousand Pesos (100,000.00), or both, and
13 disqualification to hold public office.

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15 **SECTION 4. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act or the application of
16 such provision to any person or circumstance is declared invalid, the remainder of the Act or
17 the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected
18 thereby.

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SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees and orders or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect after thirty (30) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,