

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6168



Introduced by Representative **ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Undoubtedly, broadcast industry plays a vital role in the development and growth in the Philippines and, ultimately, in shaping our country's future. It promotes public participation and influences public opinion on important matters concerning our country.

It is noteworthy to emphasize, however, that broadcast industry is capital intensive and high technology dependent. In other words, to fully harness and utilize its benefits, substantial and considerable investments on emerging and modern broadcasting facilities are needed. Needless to state, only after investing in a state-of-art, sophisticated, and efficient broadcasting and transmission system can we expect positive changes and improvement in the means information is received by, and disseminated to, the public.

Thus, it is imperative that the government continue to play an active role in sustaining and encouraging the development of the broadcast industry. The government has to attract, promote and welcome more capital infusion and investments into the broadcast industry. Equally important, the government also has to ensure that any and all existing media infrastructure and facilities are utilized to the fullest extent possible and that the owners/ investors thereof could continue their service and assistance to the nation.

In its commitment to provide innovative ways to deliver public service to the Filipino people, Byers Communication, Inc. (Byers) has made, and intends to make, significant capital investments to upgrade, improve, and enhance its broadcasting facilities and transmission system. These investments are expected to continue with the government-mandated shift from analog transmission to digital transmission. In recognition of the capital requirements of Byers' operations, the renewal and expansion of its franchise are recommended to fully utilize the capital invested therein, to ensure the uninterrupted, nationwide, and improved delivery of its services to the Filipino people, to fully assist the government in disseminating information to the people, and to enrich, enhance, and improve the broadcasting system in our country.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Eleandro", written in a cursive style.

HON. ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA

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HOUSE BILL NO. 6163

Introduced by **REP. ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA**

AN ACT
AMENDING AND RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE
FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BYERS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. UNDER
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8107 ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE BYERS
COMMUNICATIONS, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH,
OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION
STATIONS WITHIN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION AND CENTRAL
VISAYAS REGION"

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

1 SECTION 1. Republic Act Numbered 8107 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2
3 [Section 1. Subject to the provision of the Constitution, as well as other
4 applicable laws and their amendments, the Byers Communications Inc., its
5 successor or assigns, hereunder referred to as the grantee, shall be granted a
6 franchise to construct, establish, operate and maintain for commercial purposes
7 and in the public interest radio broadcasting and television stations nationwide.

8 Sec. 2. The radio broadcasting and television stations shall not be put in
9 actual operation until the National Telecommunications Commission shall have
10 allotted to the grantee the frequencies, wavelengths, and channels to be used
11 under this franchise and determined the stations to and from which each
12 frequency and wavelength may be used, and issued license for such use.

13 The National Telecommunications Commission, on reasonable notice to
14 the grantee may, at any time, change, cancel, or modify, in whole or in part any
15 or all of the allotments of frequencies or wavelengths to be used. It may take such
16 action: (1) whenever in its judgment such frequencies and wavelengths have
17 been used or there is danger that they will be used by the grantee to impair
18 electrical communications, or stifle competition, or to obtain a monopoly in
19 electrical communications, or to secure unreasonable rates for such

1 communications, or to violate otherwise the laws or public policy of the
2 Philippines Republic; (2) whenever in its judgment the public interest of the
3 Republic of the Philippines requires that such frequencies and wavelengths be
4 used for other purposes than those of the grantee, either by the government of
5 the Philippines or by other individuals or corporations licensed by it; and (3)
6 whenever in its judgment, for any reason, the public interest of the Philippines so
7 requires.

8 Sec. 3. This franchise is granted for a period of twenty-five (25) years and
9 upon the express condition that the same shall be void unless the construction of
10 the station be completed within two (2) years from the date of the approval of
11 this Act.

12 Sec. 4. This franchise is likewise granted on the condition that the
13 grantee shall provide adequate public service time to enable the government,
14 through the said radio broadcasting and television stations, to reach the
15 population on important public issues; assist in the functions of public
16 information and education; conform to the ethics of honest enterprise; and not
17 use its stations for the broadcasting and/or telecasting of obscene or indecent
18 language, speech, act or scene or for the dissemination of deliberately false
19 information or willful misinterpretation to the detriment of the public interest, or
20 to incite, encourage, or assist in subversive or treasonable acts.

21 Sec. 5. The grantee, its heirs, successors or assign, shall so construct and
22 operate its radio and television stations so as not to interfere with the operation
23 of other radio and television stations maintained and operated in the Philippines.

24 Sec. 6. The grantee shall not require any previous censorship of any
25 speech, play, act, scene or other matter to be broadcast and or telecast from its
26 stations: provided, that, the grantee, during any broadcast and/or telecast, shall
27 scene or other matter being broadcasting/or telecast, if the tendency thereof is to
28 propose and/or incite treason, rebellion, or sedition, or the language used
29 therein on the theme thereof is indecent or immoral, and willful failure to do so
30 shall constitute a valid cause for the cancellation of this franchise.

31 Sec. 7. The grantee shall hold the national, provincial, and municipal
32 governments of the Philippines free from all claims, accounts, demands or
33 actions arising out of accidents or injuries, whether to property or to person,
34 caused by the construction or operation of the stations of the grantee.

35 Sec. 8. A special right is hereby reserved to the President of the

Philippines in times of war, rebellion, public peril, calamity, emergency, disaster, or disturbance of peace and order, to take over and operate the said stations or to authorize the temporary use and operation thereof by any agency of the government, upon due compensation to the grantee, for the use of said stations during the period when they shall be so operated.

Sec. 9. The President of the Philippines shall have the power and authority to permit the construction of said stations or any of them on any land of the public domain upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe.

Sec. 10. No private property shall be taken for any purpose by the grantee of this franchise, its successors or assigns, without proper condemnation proceedings and just compensation paid or tendered thereof, and any authority to take and occupy land obtained herein shall not authorize the taking, use, or occupation of any land except such as is required for the actual necessary purposes for which this franchise is granted. All lands or rights of use and occupation of lands granted to the grantee, its heirs, successors or assigns shall, upon its revocation or repeal, revert to the national, provincial, or municipal government to which such land or right to use and occupy belonged at the time of the grant hereof or the right to use and occupy the same was conceded to the grantee herein, its heirs, successors or assigns.

Sec. 11. The right is hereby reserved to the government of the Philippines, through the National Telecommunications Commission or such other government agencies as may hereafter be duly authorized, to fix the maximum rate or charges to be charged by the grantee.

Sec. 12. As a condition of the granting of this franchise, the grantee shall execute a bond in favor of the government of the Philippines in the sum of Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) in form and with sureties satisfactory to the Secretary of Transportation and Communications conditioned upon the faithful performance of the grantee's obligations hereunder during the first four (4) years of the life of this franchise. If, after four (4) years from the date of the approval of this franchise, the grantee shall approval of this franchise, the grantee shall have fulfilled the said conditions, the bond shall be cancelled by the Secretary of Transportation and Communications, otherwise it shall be forfeited in favor of the government.

Sec. 13. Acceptance of this franchise shall be given in writing within six (6) months after approval of this Act. Upon acceptance by the grantee and upon

1 approval of the bond required under Section 12 of this Act by the Secretary of
2 Transportation and Communication, the grantee shall be empowered to exercise
3 the privileges granted thereby.

4 Sec. 14. The grantee shall not lease, transfer, grant the usufruct of, sell nor
5 assign this franchise, or the rights or privileges acquired there under to any
6 person, firm, company, corporation or other commercial or legal entity, nor
7 merge with any other person, company or corporation organized for the same
8 purpose, without the prior approval of the Congress of the Philippines. Any
9 corporation to which this franchise may be sold, transferred, or assigned shall be
10 subject to all conditions, terms, restrictions, and limitations of this franchise as
11 fully and completely and to the same extent as if the franchise had been
12 originally granted to the said person, firm, company, corporation or other
13 commercial or legal entity.

14 Sec. 15. In the event of any competing individual, partnership or
15 corporation receiving from the Congress a similar franchise in which there shall
16 be any term or terms more favorable than those herein granted or tending to
17 place the herein grantee at any disadvantage, then such term shall ipso facto
18 become part of the terms hereof and shall operate equally in favor of the grantee
19 as in the case of said competing individual, partnership or corporation.

20 Sec. 16. The grantee shall be liable to pay the same taxes on their real
21 estate, buildings and personal property, exclusive of this franchise, as other
22 persons, natural or juridical, are now or hereafter may be required by law to pay.
23 In addition thereto, the grantee, its successors or assigns, shall pay a franchise tax
24 at such percentage as may be required by law on all gross receipts of the
25 radio/television business transacted under this franchise by the grantee, its
26 successors or assigns: provided, that the grantee, its successors or assigns, shall
27 continue to be liable for income taxes payable under Title II of the National
28 Internal Revenue Code pursuant to Sec. 2 of Executive Order No. 72 unless the
29 latter enactment is amended or repealed, in which case the amendment or repeal
30 shall be applicable thereto. The grantee file the return with and pay the tax due
31 thereon to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue of his duly authorized
32 representative in accordance with the National Internal Revenue Code and the
33 return shall be subject to audit by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

34 Sec. 17. This franchise shall be subject to amendment, alteration or repeal
35 by the Congress of the Philippines when the public interest so requires and shall

1 not be interpreted as an exclusive grant of the privileges herein provided for.

2 Sec. 18. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.]

3
4 "SECTION 1. *NATURE AND SCOPE OF FRANCHISE.* - SUBJECT TO THE
5 PROVISIONS OF THE 1987 PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION AND APPLICABLE LAWS,
6 RULES AND REGULATIONS, THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BYERS
7 COMMUNICATIONS, INC., HEREUNDER REFERRED TO AS THE GRANTEE, ITS
8 SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNEES, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8107, TO CONSTRUCT,
9 INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL
10 PURPOSES, INCLUDING FOR PAY-SERVICE, AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST,
11 RADIO AND/OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE
12 PHILIPPINES, WHERE FREQUENCIES AND/OR CHANNELS ARE STILL
13 AVAILABLE FOR RADIO AND/OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING, INCLUDING
14 DIGITAL TELEVISION SYSTEM, THROUGH MICROWAVE, SATELLITE OR
15 WHATEVER MEANS, INCLUDING THE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN
16 TELEVISION AND RADIO SYSTEMS, WITH THE CORRESPONDING
17 TECHNOLOGICAL AUXILIARIES AND FACILITIES, SPECIAL BROADCAST AND
18 OTHER PROGRAM AND DISTRIBUTION SERVICES AND RELAY STATIONS, IS
19 HEREBY RENEWED FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE
20 EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT."

21
22 "SEC. 2. *MANNER OF OPERATION OF STATIONS OR FACILITIES.* - THE
23 STATIONS OR FACILITIES OF THE GRANTEE SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED AND
24 OPERATED IN A MANNER AS WILL, AT MOST, RESULT ONLY IN THE MINIMUM
25 INTERFERENCE ON THE WAVELENGTHS OR FREQUENCIES OF EXISTING
26 STATIONS OR OTHER STATIONS WHICH MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY LAW,
27 WITHOUT IN ANY WAY DIMINISHING ITS OWN RIGHT TO USE ITS SELECTED
28 WAVELENGTHS OR FREQUENCIES AND THE QUALITY OF TRANSMISSION OR
29 RECEPTION THEREON AS SHOULD MAXIMIZE RENDITION OF THE GRANTEE'S
30 SERVICES AND/OR AVAILABILITY THEREOF."

31
32 "SEC. 3. *PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS*
33 *COMMISSION.* - THE GRANTEE SHALL SECURE FROM THE NATIONAL
34 TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC), THE APPROPRIATE PERMITS
35 AND LICENSES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF ITS STATIONS
36 AND FACILITIES, AND SHALL NOT USE ANY FREQUENCY IN THE

1 RADIO/TELEVISION SPECTRUM WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION FROM THE NTC.
2 THE NTC, HOWEVER, SHALL NOT UNREASONABLY WITHHOLD OR DELAY THE
3 GRANT OF SUCH AUTHORITY.”
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5

6 “SEC. 4. *RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC.* - THE GRANTEE SHALL
7 PROVIDE ADEQUATE PUBLIC SERVICE TIME TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT,
8 THROUGH THE SAID BROADCASTING STATIONS OR FACILITIES, TO REACH
9 THE POPULATION ON IMPORTANT PUBLIC ISSUES; PROVIDE AT ALL TIMES
10 SOUND AND BALANCED PROGRAMMING; PROMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
11 SUCH AS IN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING; ASSIST IN THE FUNCTIONS OF
12 PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION; CONFORM TO THE ETHICS OF
13 HONEST ENTERPRISE; AND NOT USE ITS STATIONS AND FACILITIES FOR THE
14 BROADCASTING OF OBSCENE AND INDECENT LANGUAGE, SPEECH, ACT OR
15 SCENE OR FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF DELIBERATELY FALSE INFORMATION
16 OR WILLFUL MISREPRESENTATION, TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE PUBLIC
17 INTEREST, OR TO INCITE, ENCOURAGE OR ASSIST IN SUBVERSIVE OR
18 TREASONABLE ACTS.”
19

20 “SEC. 5. *RIGHT OF GOVERNMENT.* - A SPECIAL RIGHT IS HEREBY
21 RESERVED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, IN TIMES OF WAR,
22 REBELLION, PUBLIC PERIL, CALAMITY, EMERGENCY, DISASTER OR
23 DISTURBANCE OF PEACE AND ORDER: TO TEMPORARILY TAKE OVER AND
24 OPERATE THE STATIONS OR FACILITIES OF THE GRANTEE, TO TEMPORARILY
25 SUSPEND THE OPERATION OF ANY STATION OR FACILITY IN THE INTEREST
26 OF PUBLIC SAFETY, SECURITY AND PUBLIC WELFARE, OR TO AUTHORIZE THE
27 TEMPORARY USE AND OPERATION THEREOF BY ANY AGENCY OF THE
28 GOVERNMENT, UPON DUE COMPENSATION TO THE GRANTEE, FOR THE USE
29 OF SAID STATIONS OR FACILITIES DURING THE PERIOD WHEN THEY SHALL BE
30 SO OPERATED. THE RADIO SPECTRUM IS A FINITE RESOURCE THAT IS PART OF
31 THE NATIONAL PATRIMONY AND THE USE THEREOF IS A PRIVILEGE
32 CONFERRED UPON THE GRANTEE BY THE STATE AND MAY BE WITHDRAWN
33 ANY TIME AFTER DUE PROCESS.”
34

35 “SEC. 6. *SELF-REGULATION BY AND UNDERTAKING OF GRANTEE.* - THE

1 GRANTEE SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY PREVIOUS CENSORSHIP OF ANY SPEECH,
2 PLAY, ACT OR SCENE, OR OTHER MATTER TO BE BROADCAST FROM ITS
3 STATIONS: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE GRANTEE, DURING ANY BROADCAST,
4 SHALL CUT OFF FROM THE AIR THE SPEECH, PLAY, ACT OR SCENE, OR OTHER
5 MATTER BEING BROADCAST IF THE TENDENCY THEREOF IS TO PROPOSE
6 AND/OR INCITE TREASON, REBELLION OR SEDITION; OR THE LANGUAGE
7 USED THEREIN OR THE THEME THEREOF IS INDECENT OR IMMORAL:
8 *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT WILLFUL FAILURE TO DO SO SHALL CONSTITUTE
9 A VALID CAUSE FOR THE CANCELLATION OF THIS FRANCHISE.”
10

11 “SEC. 7. WARRANTY IN FAVOR OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL
12 GOVERNMENTS. - THE GRANTEE SHALL HOLD THE NATIONAL, PROVINCIAL,
13 CITY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS OF THE PHILIPPINES FREE FROM ALL
14 CLAIMS, ACCOUNTS, DEMANDS, OR ACTIONS ARISING OUT OF ACCIDENTS
15 OR INJURIES, WHETHER TO PROPERTY OR TO PERSONS, CAUSED BY THE
16 CONSTRUCTION OR OPERATION OF THE STATIONS OF THE GRANTEE.”
17

18 “SEC. 8. SALE, LEASE, TRANSFER, USUFRUCT, OR ASSIGNMENT OF
19 FRANCHISE. - THE GRANTEE SHALL NOT LEASE, TRANSFER, GRANT THE
20 USUFRUCT OF, SELL NOR ASSIGN THIS FRANCHISE OR THE RIGHTS AND
21 PRIVILEGE ACQUIRED THEREUNDER TO ANY PERSON, FIRM, COMPANY,
22 CORPORATION OR OTHER COMMERCIAL OR LEGAL ENTITY, NOR MERGE
23 WITH ANY OTHER CORPORATION OR ENTITY, NOR SHALL THE
24 CONTROLLING INTEREST OF THE GRANTEE BE TRANSFERRED, WHETHER AS A
25 WHOLE OR IN PARTS, AND WHETHER SIMULTANEOUSLY OR
26 CONTEMPORANEOUSLY, TO ANY PERSON, FIRM, COMPANY, CORPORATION
27 OR ENTITY WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE CONGRESS OF THE
28 PHILIPPINES: *PROVIDED*, THAT CONGRESS SHALL BE INFORMED OF ANY
29 LEASE, TRANSFER, GRANTING THE USUFRUCT OF, SALE OR ASSIGNMENT OF
30 FRANCHISE OR THE RIGHTS OR PRIVILEGES ACQUIRED THEREUNDER, OR THE
31 MERGER OR TRANSFER OF THE CONTROLLING INTEREST OF THE GRANTEE,
32 WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE TRANSACTION:
33 *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT FAILURE TO REPORT TO CONGRESS THE CHANGE
34 OF OWNERSHIP SHALL RENDER THE FRANCHISE *IPSO FACTO* REVOKED:
35 *PROVIDED, FINALLY*, THAT ANY PERSON OR ENTITY TO WHICH THIS

1 FRANCHISE IS SOLD, TRANSFERRED, OR ASSIGNED, SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE
2 SAME CONDITIONS, TERMS, RESTRICTIONS, AND LIMITATIONS OF THIS ACT."

3
4 "SEC. 9. *DISPERSAL OF OWNERSHIP.* - IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
5 CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION TO ENCOURAGE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN
6 PUBLIC UTILITIES, THE GRANTEE SHALL OFFER TO FILIPINO CITIZENS AT
7 LEAST THIRTY PER CENT (30%) OR A HIGHER PERCENTAGE THAT MAY
8 HEREAFTER BE PROVIDED BY LAW OF ITS OUTSTANDING CAPITAL STOCK IN
9 ANY SECURITIES EXCHANGE IN THE PHILIPPINES WITHIN FIVE (5) YEARS
10 FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF ITS OPERATIONS: *PROVIDED*, THAT IN CASES
11 WHERE PUBLIC OFFER OF SHARES IS NOT APPLICABLE, ESTABLISHMENT OF
12 COOPERATIVES AND OTHER METHODS OF ENCOURAGING PUBLIC
13 PARTICIPATION BY CITIZENS AND CORPORATIONS OPERATING PUBLIC
14 UTILITIES MUST BE IMPLEMENTED. NONCOMPLIANCE THEREWITH SHALL
15 RENDER THE FRANCHISE *IPSO FACTO* REVOKED. "

16
17 "SEC. 10. *EQUALITY CLAUSE.* - ANY ADVANTAGE, FAVOR, PRIVILEGE,
18 EXEMPTION, OR IMMUNITY GRANTED UNDER EXISTING FRANCHISES, OR
19 WHICH MAY HEREAFTER BE GRANTED FOR RADIO AND/OR TELEVISION
20 BROADCASTING, UPON PRIOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONGRESS, SHALL
21 BECOME PART OF THIS FRANCHISE AND SHALL BE ACCORDED IMMEDIATELY
22 AND UNCONDITIONALLY TO THE HEREIN GRANTEE: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE
23 FOREGOING SHALL NEITHER APPLY TO NOR AFFECT PROVISIONS OF
24 BROADCASTING FRANCHISES CONCERNING TERRITORY COVERED BY THE
25 FRANCHISE, THE LIFE SPAN OF THE FRANCHISE OR THE TYPE OF SERVICE
26 AUTHORIZED BY THE FRANCHISE."

27
28 "SEC. 11. *GENERAL BROADCAST POLICY LAW.* - THE GRANTEE SHALL
29 COMPLY WITH AND BE SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF A GENERAL
30 BROADCAST POLICY LAW, WHICH CONGRESS MAY HEREAFTER ENACT."

31
32 "SEC. 12. *REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENT.* - THE GRANTEE SHALL SUBMIT
33 AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, THROUGH THE
34 COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES OF THE HOUSE OF
35 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES OF THE

1 SENATE, ON ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE
2 FRANCHISE AND ON ITS OPERATIONS ON OR BEFORE APRIL 30 OF EVERY
3 YEAR DURING THE TERM OF ITS FRANCHISE. THE REPORTORIAL
4 COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY CONGRESS SHALL BE REQUIRED
5 BEFORE ANY APPLICATION FOR PERMIT OR CERTIFICATE IS ACCEPTED BY THE
6 NTC.”

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9 “SEC. 13. *PENALTY CLAUSE* - FAILURE OF THE GRANTEE TO SUBMIT THE
10 REQUISITE ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS SHALL BE PENALIZED BY A FINE
11 IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00) PER WORKING DAY OF
12 NONCOMPLIANCE. THE FINE SHALL BE COLLECTED BY THE NTC FROM THE
13 DELINQUENT FRANCHISE GRANTEE SEPARATE FROM THE REPORTORIAL
14 PENALTIES IMPOSED BY THE NTC.”

15
16 “SEC. 14. *SEPARABILITY CLAUSE*. - IF ANY OF THE SECTIONS OR
17 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT IS HELD INVALID, ALL OTHER PROVISIONS NOT
18 AFFECTED THEREBY SHALL REMAIN VALID.”

19
20 “SEC. 15. *REPEALABILITY AND NON-EXCLUSIVITY CLAUSE*. - THIS
21 FRANCHISE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT, ALTERATION, OR REPEAL BY
22 THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES WHEN THE PUBLIC INTEREST SO
23 REQUIRES AND SHALL NOT BE INTERPRETED AS AN EXCLUSIVE GRANT OF
24 THE PRIVILEGES HEREIN PROVIDED FOR.”

25
26 SEC. 2. *Renewal/Extension of the Term of Franchise*. - The term of franchise granted
27 under Republic Act No. 8107 is hereby renewed/extended for a period of twenty-five
28 (25) years from the date of the effectivity of this Act. This franchise shall be deemed *ipso*
29 *facto* revoked in the event the grantee fails to operate continuously for two (2) years.

30
31 SEC. 3. *Acceptance and Compliance*. - Acceptance of the amendment and
32 extension/renewal of the franchise shall be given in writing to the Congress of the
33 Philippines, through the Committee on Legislative Franchises of the House of
34 Representatives and the Committee on Public Services of the Senate within sixty (60)
35 days from the approval of this Act. Upon giving such acceptance, the grantee shall

1 exercise the privileges granted under this Act. Nonacceptance shall render the
2 franchise void.

3
4 SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
5 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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7 Approved,
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