

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

_____ Regular Session
House Bill No. 6518



Introduced by: **Rep. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Evasion of Service of Sentence is punished under Article 157 of the Revised Penal Code penalizing those who shall evade service of sentence by escaping during the term of his imprisonment by reason of final judgment.

Under aforementioned article, evasion of sentence is committed only by those who are convicted by final judgment. It is said that flight is an indication of guilt and in order to speedily resolve a case the presence and cooperation of the accused is essential.

To allow escape prisoners without sanction is to encourage flight and to evade law. While the person who assists in the escape is penalized the detention prisoner who evade is free from any penalty.

The speedy disposition of cases crucial in achieving justice for as stated justice delayed is justice denied. When flight made by detention prisoner is not penalized it is tolerating an unlawful act.

Therefore there is a need to penalize escape of detention prisoners to forestall situation which would foster the evasion of detention prisoners since there is no sanction provided by law.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this measure.


REP. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA
Lone District, Bacolod City

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**AN ACT PENALIZING DETENTION PRISONERS WHO SHALL ABSCOND
DURING PENDENCY OF THE CASE.**

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* An Act Penalizing Detention Prisoners who shall abscond during pendency of the case.

SECTION 2. A new Article 157-A defining the crime of Flight of Detention Prisoner and providing for its penalty shall be included in Act No. 3815 otherwise known as the Revised Penal Code, which read as follows:

Article 157-A Flight of a Detention Prisoner

The penalty of arresto mayor in its maximum period to prision correccional shall be imposed upon any detention prisoner in a jail or penal establishment who while confined therein shall abscond during the pendency of the case before final judgment.

SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* If any provision or part thereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,