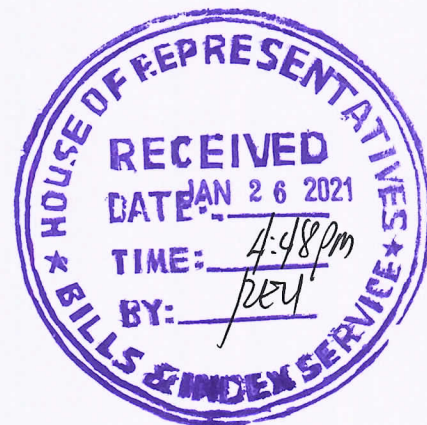


Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  
HOUSE BILL NO. 8543



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Introduced by Representative Julianne “Jam” L. Baronda

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AN ACT  
INCREASING THE PENALTIES UNDER THE ANTI-GRAFT AND  
CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE REPUBLIC  
ACT NO. 3019, AS AMENDED

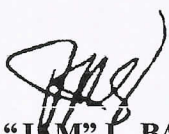
EXPLANATORY NOTE

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte in his meeting with the legislators on 16 September 2020 asked Congress to look into measures that would address rampant graft and corruption in the country, including increasing penalties for graft and corrupt practices.

The increase of the penalties for graft and corruption practices would operationalize the Constitutional provision that “Public office is a public trust” and “Public officers and employees must, at all times, be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency; act with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives.”<sup>1</sup>

This measure seeks to upgrade the penalties for violations of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act by increasing the maximum penalty for violations of Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Act from fifteen (15) to twenty (20) years to mirror the maximum period for *reclusion temporal*, while the imposable fine or imprisonment for failure to submit one’s Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net worth (SALN) under Section 7 will be increased from “a fine of not less than one thousand pesos (PhP 1,000.00) nor more than five thousand pesos (PhP 5,000.00), or by imprisonment not exceeding one year and six months” to “a fine not less than ten thousand peso (PhP 10,000.00) nor more than one hundred thousand pesos (PhP 100,000.00), or by imprisonment not exceeding three years.”

Passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
JULIENNE “JAM” L. BARONDA  
Lone District of Iloilo City

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<sup>1</sup> Sec. 1, Art. XI, Constitution

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**AN ACT**  
**INCREASING THE PENALTIES UNDER THE ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT**  
**PRACTICES ACT, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3019,**  
**AS AMENDED**

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

SECTION 1. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 3019, as amended, otherwise known as “Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act,” as amended by Batas Pambansa Blg. 195, is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 9. *Penalties for violations.* (a) Any public officer or private person committing any of the unlawful acts or omissions enumerated in Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this Act shall be punished with imprisonment for not less than six years and one month nor more than ~~fifteen~~ TWENTY years, perpetual disqualification from public office, and confiscation or forfeiture in favor of the Government of any prohibited interest and unexplained wealth manifestly out of proportion to his salary and other lawful income.

Any complaining party at whose complaint the criminal prosecution was initiated shall, in case of conviction of the accused, be entitled to recover in the criminal action with priority over the forfeiture in favor of the Government, the amount of money or the thing he may have given to the accused, or the value of such thing.

(b) Any public officer violating any of the provisions of Section 7 of this Act shall be punished by a fine of not less than ~~one thousand pesos~~ TEN THOUSAND PESOS nor more than ~~five thousand pesos~~ ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS, or by imprisonment not exceeding ~~one year and six months~~ FIVE YEARS, or by both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the Court.

The violation of said section proven in a proper administrative proceeding shall be sufficient cause for removal or dismissal of a public officer, even if no criminal prosecution is instituted against him.

SEC. 2. ***Separability Clause.*** – Should any provision of this Act be declared invalid, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and subsisting.

SEC. 3. ***Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, or administrative orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. ***Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,