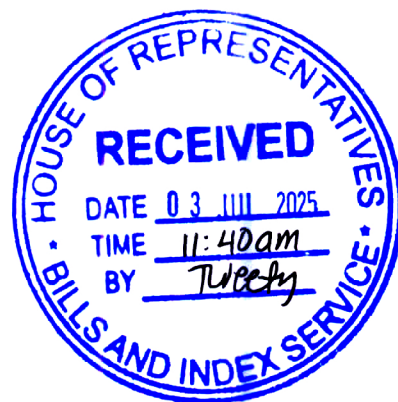




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. 1204



INTRODUCED BY **Rep. ZIAUR-RAHMAN ALONTO ADIONG**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Radio and television continue to be vital tools in the dissemination of information, public education, and cultural preservation, particularly in regions with limited internet connectivity. In Lanao del Sur, where access to information and platforms for public discourse remain uneven, the operation of community-based broadcast media provides an essential service to the public.

The **Ranao Radio Broadcasting and TV System Corporation** has, for years, served as one such platform. It plays a significant role in fostering local identity, promoting transparency, and delivering timely news and educational content across the province. Its continued operation ensures that residents in Lanao del Sur remain informed, engaged, and connected to the larger national conversation.

It must be noted that the **Ranao Radio Broadcasting and TV System Corporation was granted a legislative franchise under Republic Act No. 9063**, enacted on **April 5, 2001**, authorizing it to construct, install, establish, operate, and maintain radio and television broadcasting stations in Lanao del Sur. This franchise was granted for a period of **twenty-five (25) years** and is set to **expire in April 2026**.

In view of the approaching expiration of this franchise, this bill seeks to **renew and extend the legislative franchise of the Ranao Radio Broadcasting and TV System Corporation** to ensure the uninterrupted operation of its services, safeguard local employment, and maintain access to reliable public information for the communities it serves.

Given the critical role that local media plays in strengthening democracy and fostering regional development, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



REP. ZIAUR-RAHMAN ALONTO ADIONG
1st District, Lanao Del Sur



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**AN ACT
RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE
GRANTED TO RANAO RADIO BROADCASTING AND TV SYSTEM
CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9063 ENTITLED "AN ACT
GRANTING THE RANAO RADIO BROADCASTING AND TV SYSTEM
CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH,
OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING
STATIONS IN LANAO DEL SUR"**

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

Section 1. Nature and Scope of Franchise.

Renewal of the franchise for another 25 years for Ranao Radio Broadcasting and TV System Corporation to construct, install, establish, operate, and maintain radio and TV broadcasting stations in Lanao del Sur, including new technologies.

Section 2. Manner of Operation of Stations or Facilities.

Stations must operate to minimize interference with other stations without diminishing their own rights.

Section 3. Prior Approval of the National Telecommunications Commission.

NTC permits and licenses are required; frequencies cannot be used without NTC authorization.

Section 4. Responsibility to the Public.

Grantee must provide public service time, balanced programming, assist in public information, adhere to ethical standards, and not broadcast obscene or false content.

Section 5. Right of Government.

The President can take over or suspend operations in times of war, emergency, or public danger, with compensation to the grantee. Use of the radio spectrum is a privilege that may be withdrawn after due process.

Section 6. Term of Franchise.

Valid for 25 years unless revoked earlier; automatic revocation if the grantee fails to:

- commence operations within 1 year of NTC permit,

- operate continuously for 2 years,
- start operations within 3 years from enactment.

Section 7. Self-Regulation.

No pre-censorship is allowed, but grantee must cut broadcasts inciting treason or using indecent language; failure to do so is cause for franchise cancellation.

Section 8. Warranty.

Grantee must hold national and local governments harmless from any accidents or injuries arising from station operations.

Section 9. Employment.

Grantee must create employment opportunities for local residents and comply with labor laws, reporting jobs created annually to the SEC.

Section 10. Sale, Lease, Transfer.

Franchise rights cannot be sold, leased, or transferred without prior congressional approval; any successor inherits the same terms.

Section 11. Dispersal of Ownership.

Grantee must offer at least 30% of outstanding capital stock in a securities exchange within five years of becoming a national broadcasting network (operating at least three stations). Non-compliance revokes the franchise.

Section 12. Equality Clause.

Any advantage granted to other franchises automatically extends to this one, except concerning territory, lifespan, or authorized service type.

Section 13. Separability Clause.

If any provision is invalidated, others remain in effect.

Section 14. Repealability and Nonexclusivity Clause.

Congress can amend or repeal the franchise; it's not an exclusive grant.

Section 15. Repealing Clause.

Inconsistent laws and issuances are repealed or amended.

Section 16. Reportorial Requirement.

Annual report to Congress on franchise compliance and operations within 60 days of each year-end.

Section 17. Effectivity.

The Act takes effect 15 days after publication in the *Official Gazette* or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,