



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4701



Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE CHEENO MIGUEL D. ALMARIO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Delicadeza is a Spanish word which means “delicateness, fineness or tact, or showing regard for the feelings of others, or sensitive in action or operation”. However, in Filipino culture, it is the character of holding oneself into a higher moral and ethical standard which is a burden of a public office. For the longest time in Philippine politics, *delicadeza* is no longer the standard. Rather, it is considered as a nuisance, an unwanted word which shall be kept out of the spotlight.

When President Marcos Jr. delivered his 2025 SONA, he finally said that enough is enough. He shouted “*Mahiya naman kayo!*” so strongly that his pronouncement echoed throughout the country. It was a war cry to make *delicadeza* the norm. And this time, it should extend not just to public officials but also to their relatives. The past couple of months highlighted the outrageous luxury that these contractors possess. If they are so comfortable at publicly flaunting their wealth, then they must also be held accountable over how they made these luxuries. They shall be held into same moral and ethical standards which public officials are being held to account.

No longer shall relatives of public officials make money out of government contracts. This bill seeks to disqualify them from making money out of the hard-earned tax money of Filipinos.

CHEENO MIGUEL D. ALMARIO
Representative
2nd District, Davao Oriental



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AN ACT
DISQUALIFYING RELATIVES OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS OR CORPORATIONS,
WITH RELATIVES OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS AS SUBSTANTIAL
STOCKHOLDERS, WITHIN THE FOURTH CIVIL DEGREE OF
CONSANGUINITY OR AFFINITY IN ALL GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS AND
PROVIDING PENALTY THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “*Delicadeza Act of 2025*”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared a policy of the State to promote honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act, the term:

- a) “Contractor” is deemed synonymous with the term “builder” and, hence, any natural person or corporation who undertakes or offers to undertake or purports to have the capacity to undertake or submits a bid to, or does himself or by or through others, construct, alter, repair, add to, subtract from, improve, move, wreck or demolish any building, highway, road, railroad, excavation or other structure, project, development or improvement, or to do any part thereof, including the erection of scaffolding or other structures or works in

connection therewith. The term contractor includes general engineering contractor, general building contractor, subcontractor and specialty contractor.

- b) "General Engineering Contractor" is a person whose principal contracting business is in connection with fixed works requiring specialized engineering knowledge and skill, including the following divisions or subjects: irrigation, drainage, water power, water supply, flood control, inland waterways, harbors, docks and wharves, shipyards and ports, dams, hydroelectric projects, levees, river control and reclamation works, railroads, highways, streets and roads, tunnels, airports and airways, waste reduction plants, bridges, overpasses, underpasses and other similar works, pipelines and other system for the transmission of petroleum and other liquid or gaseous substances, land leveling and earth moving projects, excavating, grading, trenching, paving and surfacing work.
- c) "General Building Contractor" is a person whose principal contracting business is in connection with any structure built, being built, or to be built, for the support, shelter and enclosure of persons, animals, chattels or movable property of any kind, requiring in its construction the use of more than two unrelated building trades or crafts, or to do or superintend the whole or any part thereof. Such structure includes sewers and sewerage disposal plants and systems, parks, playgrounds and other recreational works, refineries, chemical plants, and similar industrial plants requiring specialized engineering knowledge and skill, powerhouse, power plants and other utility plants and installations mines and metallurgical plants, cement and concrete works in connection with the abovementioned fixed works.
- d) "Government" includes the national government, local government unit, or any government instrumentalities, agencies, or branches of the Republic of the Philippines, including government-owned or controlled corporations, and their subsidiaries
- e) "Government Contract" includes any agreement between the government and a contractor which shall lead to financial benefit of the latter.
- f) "Public Official" includes elective and appointive officials and employees, permanent or temporary, whether in the career or non-career service, including military and police personnel, whether or not they receive compensation, regardless of amount.
- g) "Specialty Contractor" is a person whose operations pertain to the performance of construction work requiring special skill and whose principal contracting business involves the use of specialized building trades or crafts.

- h) "Substantial stockholder" means any person or group of persons who owns, directly or indirectly, shares of stock amounting to 51% of the total shares of the corporation.

SECTION 4. Prohibited Acts and Transactions. – It shall be unlawful for relatives of public official or corporations, with relatives of public officials as substantial stockholder, within the fourth civil degree of affinity or consanguinity, to:

- a) Enter into government contracts; or
- b) Use of dummy person or corporation in entering to government contracts in accordance to Commonwealth Act No. 108, as amended, or other pertinent laws.

SECTION 5. Penalties. – The following penalties shall be observed:

- a) The penalty of *reclusion perpetua* shall be meted on any person who shall violate the Section 4(a) or Section 4(b) of this Act;
- b) The dummy person mentioned in Section 4(b) of this Act shall be punished with *prision mayor*. Provided, no penalty shall be meted to him or her if he or she can prove that other persons coerced him or her into being a dummy.
- c) Any corporation who shall violate this Act shall be dissolved.

Provided, the person or corporation who violates this Act shall be fined with an amount equal to the amount allocated for the government contract.

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Government Procurement Policy Board, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Public-Private Partnership Center, and the Governance Commission for GOCCs, in consultation with government agencies concerned, shall jointly promulgate the rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, other issuances, and parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,