



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9386

Introduced by
Presley C. De Jesus, PhilRECA Party-List Representative

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Racing Commission was created under Presidential Decree No. 420 in 1974 to supervise and regulate horse racing in the Philippines. After several decades, however, the legal framework governing the racing industry needs to be updated to respond to present regulatory, developmental, fiscal, and social protection concerns.

This bill seeks to reconstitute the Philippine Racing Commission into the Philippine Racing Corporation, a government-owned or controlled corporation with original charter. The proposed reconstitution will allow the agency to exercise its regulatory mandate with greater institutional capacity, corporate flexibility, and financial accountability. As a GOCC, the Corporation will be better equipped to manage revenues, administer industry development programs, support the growth and modernization of the racing industry, and professionalize its governance subject to the oversight mechanisms applicable to GOCCs. A stronger and more competitive racing industry may also expand economic activity, generate employment, and increase potential government revenues from racing-related operations.

The bill strengthens the Corporation as the primary regulatory and developmental authority for horse racing and other authorized animal racing in the Philippines. It rationalizes its powers and functions, expands its jurisdiction to other forms of animal racing, and provides a clearer framework for licensing, regulation, enforcement, and revenue monitoring.

The measure also enhances the welfare of jockeys and horse trainers by institutionalizing and strengthening the Jockeys and Horse Trainers Injury, Disability and Death Compensation Fund. This recognizes the occupational risks faced by racing personnel and provides a mechanism for injury, disability, death, medical, and other welfare benefits.

The bill likewise places the National Stud Farm under the supervision and control of the Philippine Racing Corporation to better align horse breeding, genetic improvement, racehorse development, and animal health programs with the broader modernization of the racing industry.

Finally, the bill provides for the transfer of assets, personnel, records, pending matters, licenses, permits, and issuances from the existing Commission to the new Corporation to ensure continuity of operations. It repeals Presidential Decree No. 420, as amended, and amends or repeals Republic Act No. 6115 insofar as inconsistent with the proposed Act.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



REP. PRESLEY C. DE JESUS
PhilRECA Party-List



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AN ACT

**RECONSTITUTING THE PHILIPPINE RACING COMMISSION INTO THE
PHILIPPINE RACING CORPORATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Philippine
2 Racing Corporation Modernization and Social Protection Act.”

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the
4 State to:

- 5 a. Promote, develop, regulate, and modernize horse racing and other
6 authorized animal racing as sports, recreation, tourism-related
7 activities, and legitimate sources of government revenue, consistent
8 with integrity, fairness, animal welfare, transparency, and public trust;
- 9 b. Strengthen the Philippine Racing Corporation as the primary regulatory
10 and developmental authority for horse racing and other authorized
11 animal racing in the Philippines, ensuring a level playing field among
12 racing clubs, horse owners, breeders, horse trainers, jockeys, and other
13 stakeholders in the racing industry;
- 14 c. Ensure that the government’s share and all other revenues derived from
15 racing activities are collected, managed, allocated, and utilized in a
16 transparent, accountable, efficient, and development-oriented manner;

- d. Institutionalize clear and sustainable funding allocations for the Horse Racing Regulatory Program, Horse Racing Industry Development and Incentive Program, the National Stud Farm, and the Jockeys and Horse Trainers Injury, Disability and Death Compensation Fund;
- e. Enhance the welfare and social protection of jockeys, horse trainers, and other qualified racing personnel by strengthening and institutionalizing mechanisms for injury, disability, death, medical, and other welfare benefits, including the periodic review and adjustment of compensation and assistance;
- f. Strengthen and institutionalize the National Stud Farm created under Republic Act No. 4618 as the primary government facility for horse breeding, genetic improvement, racehorse development, and the prevention of illegal importation of race horses, under the supervision and control of the Philippine Racing Corporation; and
- g. Regulate and supervise other forms of authorized animal racing as sports, recreation, tourism-related activities, and legitimate sources of government revenue, consistent with animal welfare, public order, transparency, and responsible industry development.

SEC. 3. Creation of the Philippine Racing Corporation. - The Philippine Racing Commission created under Presidential Decree No. 420, as amended, is hereby reorganized and reconstituted into a government-owned or controlled corporation with original charter, organized as a non-stock corporation wholly owned and controlled by the National Government, to be known as the Philippine Racing Corporation (PHILRACOR), hereinafter referred to as the Corporation.

The Corporation shall be attached to the Office of the President for policy and program coordination and shall be subject to Republic Act No. 10149, otherwise known as the "GOCC Governance Act of 2011," and other applicable laws, rules, and regulations governing government-owned or controlled corporations.

The Corporation shall possess juridical personality, perpetual succession, and corporate powers, including the power to sue and be sued, adopt and use a corporate seal, enter into contracts, acquire, own, hold, lease, encumber, and dispose of real and personal property, receive and administer funds, grants, donations, revenues, fees, charges, and other lawful income, maintain corporate funds and accounts, and exercise such other corporate powers as may be necessary or incidental to the performance of its mandate under this Act.

1 The Corporation shall serve as the primary regulatory and
2 developmental authority for horse racing and other authorized animal racing
3 in the Philippines.

4 **SEC. 4. Board of Directors.** - The Corporation shall be governed and
5 its activities be directed, controlled, and managed by a Board of Directors,
6 hereinafter referred to as the Board, composed of a Chairperson and six (6)
7 Directors to be appointed by the President of the Philippines in accordance
8 with Republic Act No. 10149, otherwise known as the “GOCC Governance Act
9 of 2011,” and other applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

10 The Chairperson and Directors shall be persons of proven integrity and
11 competence in law, finance, racing, sports administration, or related fields.

12 Provided, That of the six (6) Directors, there shall be one (1)
13 representative of the Racehorse Owners' Association, one (1) representative of
14 the Jockeys' Association, and one (1) representative of the Horse Trainers'
15 Association, none of whom shall have any substantial interest in any racing
16 club, track betting corporation, or allied entities regulated by the Corporation.

17 **SEC. 5. Term of Office.** - The Chairperson and Directors shall hold
18 office in accordance with Republic Act No. 10149, otherwise known as the
19 “GOCC Governance Act of 2011,” and other applicable laws, rules, and
20 regulations.

21 Each appointive Director shall hold office for a term of one (1) year,
22 unless sooner removed for cause: *Provided*, That the appointive Director shall
23 continue to hold office until a successor has been appointed and qualified.

24 An appointive Director may be nominated by the Governance
25 Commission for GOCCs for reappointment by the President only if such
26 Director obtains a performance score of above average or its equivalent or
27 higher in the immediately preceding year of tenure, based on the applicable
28 performance criteria for appointive directors of government-owned or
29 controlled corporations.

30 Any appointment to a vacancy shall be only for the unexpired portion
31 of the term of the predecessor and shall be made in accordance with Republic
32 Act No. 10149 and other applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

33 **SEC. 6. Powers and Functions of the Corporation.** - The Corporation
34 shall exercise, among others, the following powers and functions, without
35 prejudice to those already vested under existing law, insofar as not
36 inconsistent with this Act:

- a. Supervise, regulate, and control horse racing in the Philippines, including racing clubs, and all persons and entities engaged in or connected with horse racing;
- b. Issue, renew, suspend, or revoke licenses of jockeys, horse trainers, grooms, horse owners, racing clubs, racing officials, and other licensees;
- c. Formulate and enforce rules and regulations on horse racing, including the conduct of races, handicapping, licensing, and discipline of all racing participants;
- d. Approve and monitor the racing calendar and race schedules of all racing clubs;
- e. Investigate, hear, and decide cases involving violations of racing laws, rules, and regulations, and impose appropriate sanctions, including fines, suspensions, and disqualifications;
- f. Supervise, regulate, and monitor the compliance of racing clubs with the franchise and tax obligations and revenue remittance requirements;
- g. Exercise the allocation of revenues from racing in accordance with the legislative franchises and relevant laws;
- h. Coordinate with relevant government agencies, such as the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), Games and Amusements Board (GAB), and the Department of Agriculture (DA), among others, to ensure harmonized policies in gaming, sports, and revenue allocations;
- i. Formulate and implement rules and regulations governing the conduct of other animal racing to promote transparency, animal welfare, and sustain public interest;
- j. Promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the objectives of this Act and periodically review and revise the same in consultation with stakeholders; and
- k. Perform such other duties and exercise all other powers incidental or necessary to the accomplishment of the aims and objectives of this Act.

SEC. 7. Executive Director as Head of Office. - The Corporation shall have an Executive Director who shall serve as the Head of Office and principal operating officer of the Corporation, under the policy direction, control, and supervision of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, subject to applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

The Executive Director shall be responsible for the day-to-day management, administration, and operations of the Corporation, and for the

1 implementation of the policies, programs, and directives approved by the
2 Board.

3 The Executive Director shall exercise supervision and control over the
4 officers and employees of the Corporation and shall have authority, upon
5 approval of the Board, to appoint, promote, discipline, and remove personnel,
6 and to create, reclassify, reorganize, or abolish positions, subject to civil
7 service laws, the rules and regulations of the Governance Commission for
8 GOCCs, the Department of Budget and Management, the Commission on
9 Audit, and other applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

10 **CHAPTER II**
11 **COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,**
12 **OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES**

13 **SEC. 8. *Compensation, Position Classification, and Benefits.*** - The
14 compensation, position classification, staffing pattern, allowances, incentives,
15 and other benefits of the Chairperson, members of the Board of Directors,
16 Executive Director, officers, and employees of the Corporation shall be
17 governed by the Compensation and Position Classification System applicable
18 to government-owned or controlled corporations, in accordance with Republic
19 Act No. 10149, otherwise known as the "GOCC Governance Act of 2011," and
20 related laws, rules, and regulations.

21 No compensation, allowance, incentive, or benefit shall be granted
22 unless authorized under applicable laws, rules, and regulations governing
23 government-owned or controlled corporations.

24 **SEC. 9. *Allowances, Per Diems, and Other Benefits.*** - In addition to
25 the compensation provided under the preceding section, the Chairperson and
26 Directors may be granted allowances, per diems, incentives, and other
27 benefits as may be authorized under existing laws, rules, and regulations
28 governing government-owned or controlled corporations, including those
29 issued by the Governance Commission for GOCCs, the Department of Budget
30 and Management, the Commission on Audit (COA), and the Civil Service
31 Commission (CSC), subject to the availability of funds and applicable
32 budgeting, accounting, auditing, and corporate governance laws.

33 **SEC. 10. *Prohibition on Additional or Double Compensation.*** - The
34 Chairperson and Directors shall not receive any other compensation,
35 allowance, per diem, incentive, or benefit from any government agency,
36 instrumentality, government-owned or controlled corporation, or any entity
37 regulated by or doing business with the Corporation, except as may be
38 authorized by law and subject to applicable rules and regulations of the

Governance Commission for GOCCs, the Department of Budget and Management, the Commission on Audit, and other appropriate government agencies.

CHAPTER III

JOCKEYS AND HORSE TRAINERS INJURY, DISABILITY AND DEATH COMPENSATION FUND

SEC. 11. *Jockeys and Horse Trainers Injury, Disability and Death Compensation Fund.* - There is hereby institutionalized the Jockeys and Horse Trainers Injury, Disability and Death Compensation Fund, hereinafter referred to as the Compensation Fund, which shall provide financial and related benefits for work-connected injury, disability, or death of licensed jockeys and horse trainers. The Compensation Fund may also extend financial aid or welfare assistance to such licensees, subject to the limits and conditions prescribed by the Corporation under this Act.

SEC. 12. *Coverage.* - The Compensation Fund shall cover all duly licensed jockeys and horse trainers licensed by the Corporation who are in good standing at the time of the injury, disability, or death, or at the time of application for eligible financial assistance.

SEC. 13. *Sources of the Fund.* - The Compensation Fund shall be sourced from:

- a. Statutory shares or earmarked percentages of racing revenues, as may be provided by law;
- b. Donations, grants, endowments, and such other sources as may be allowed by law; and
- c. Such other amounts as may be lawfully allocated by the Corporation, subject to applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

All such amounts shall be maintained in a separate and distinct account and shall be used exclusively for the purposes set forth in this Chapter. Amounts accruing to the Compensation Fund shall be treated as special or trust funds held for the benefit of qualified beneficiaries and shall not form part of the unrestricted corporate income or net earnings of the Corporation available for dividends, surplus distribution, or general corporate expenses, subject to applicable accounting, auditing, and public finance rules.

SEC. 14. *Management and Administration of the Fund.* - The Corporation shall administer and manage the Compensation Fund for this purpose, shall have the authority to:

- a. Promulgate rules and regulations governing eligibility, documentary requirements, procedures, and the computation of benefits;
- b. Receive, evaluate, process, and investigate applications for claims and benefits under the Fund;
- c. Grant financial aid, subject to clear limitations and guidelines, to qualified jockeys and horse trainers in accordance with this Act and the rules issued hereunder;
- d. Periodically review and, when necessary, revise the schedule of benefits and compensation in light of actuarial projections, the financial viability of the Fund, the financial condition of the Corporation, and prevailing socio-economic conditions, after consultation with industry stakeholders and appropriate government agencies;
- e. Monitor and evaluate the status and utilization of the Compensation Fund; and
- f. Exercise such other powers as may be necessary or incidental to effectively manage and protect the Compensation Fund.

SEC. 15. Schedule of Compensation and Benefits. - Subject to periodic review and adjustment by the Corporation, the benefits that may be granted under the Compensation Fund shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a. Death Benefit – In case of death of a covered jockey or horse trainer arising from or related to the performance of his or her licensed duties, a lump sum benefit of not less than Thirty Thousand Pesos (P30,000.00) shall be paid to his or her beneficiaries;
- b. Permanent Disability Benefit – In case of work-related permanent disability, the licensed jockey or trainer shall receive a benefit of not less than Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00);
- c. Hospitalization and Medical Benefit – For confinement, treatment, or care arising from illness or accident directly connected with racing activities or official duties, the Fund may reimburse up to an amount not exceeding Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) per year per covered person;
- d. Housing or Shelter Assistance – The Fund may extend financial assistance for the acquisition of modestly priced housing or lots by eligible jockeys or horse trainers, in an amount not exceeding Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) per beneficiary.

The Corporation shall review and may increase the foregoing amounts after five (5) years from the effectivity of this Act and every five (5) years thereafter: Provided, That any increase shall be based on the financial condition and

1 projected life of the Fund, after appropriate consultation with stakeholders
2 and appropriate government agencies.

3 All benefits granted hereunder shall be released in accordance with the rules
4 and regulations promulgated by the Corporation governing eligibility,
5 documentary requirements, procedures, and the computation and release of
6 benefits.

7 **SEC. 16. Coordination with Other Social Protection Systems.** -
8 Benefits from the Compensation Fund shall be without prejudice to any other
9 benefits that the covered person may receive from the Social Security System
10 (SSS), Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), PhilHealth, Employees'
11 Compensation Commission, or private insurance and benefit schemes,
12 provided that there shall be no double recovery for the same component of
13 loss where prohibited by law.

14 **SEC. 17. Audit and Transparency.** - The Compensation Fund shall
15 be subject to annual audit by the COA. The Corporation shall promote
16 transparency and accountability in managing the Compensation Fund
17 through publication on its website or in such medium as it may determine,
18 an annual report on the status of the Fund.

19 **CHAPTER IV**
20 **NATIONAL STUD FARM**

21 **SEC. 18. National Stud Farm.** - The National Stud Farm, created
22 under Republic Act No. 4618 to improve the breed of Philippine horses and to
23 prevent the illegal importation of race horses, is hereby placed under the
24 supervision and control of the Philippine Racing Corporation.

25 All functions, programs, assets, records, equipment, facilities, and
26 resources of the National Stud Farm which are, at the time of effectivity of this
27 Act, being administered by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and other
28 units of the Department of Agriculture (DA), are hereby transferred to the
29 Corporation, consistent with the goal of streamlining the bureaucracy to align
30 efficiency, economy, and effectiveness in operations.

31 **SEC. 19. Mandate and Functions of the National Stud Farm.** -
32 Under the supervision and control of the Corporation, the National Stud Farm
33 shall:

- 34 a. Implement horse-breeding and genetic improvement programs to
35 upgrade the Philippine horse breed and ensure a sustainable supply
36 of quality horses for racing and other purposes;

- b. Establish and maintain stud books, registries, and other records necessary for the identification, traceability, and breeding history of horses;
- c. Promote and supervise the importation, quarantine, and use of suitable breeding stock in a manner consistent with animal health, biosecurity, and customs law, and prevent illegal importation of race horses;
- d. Provide technical assistance, training, and advisory services to breeders and horse owners;
- e. Coordinate with relevant government agencies, such as the Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Animal Industry, and local government units, on programs and regulations affecting horse breeding and animal health; and
- f. Perform such other functions as may be prescribed by the Corporation consistent with its mandate under this Act and Republic Act No. 4618.

SEC. 20. *Integration with the Compensation Fund and Industry Programs.* - The Corporation shall ensure that the programs of the National Stud Farm are harmonized with:

- a. The Jockeys and Horse Trainers Injury, Disability and Death Compensation Fund, through programs that enhance the safety of horses, jockeys, horse trainers, and other racing participants through improved breeding, conditioning, veterinary standards, and animal health practices; and
- b. Industry development initiatives, including incentives for local breeders, programs to widen access to quality breeding stock, and measures to improve the competitiveness, sustainability, and professionalism of the Philippine racing and breeding industry.

The Corporation shall adopt measures to ensure that revenues generated by horse racing and earmarked for horse-breeding and National Stud Farm activities are efficiently utilized and directly contribute to the long-term development of the racing and breeding industry.

CHAPTER V OTHER ANIMAL RACES

SEC. 21. *Regulation of Other Animal Races.* - The Corporation shall regulate and supervise other forms of animal racing conducted as a sport, recreation, or source of revenue.

1 For this purpose, the Corporation shall promulgate, implement, and
2 enforce rules and regulations governing the licensing of greyhounds/dogs,
3 carabaos, pigeons, and other animals involved in racing.

4 **SEC. 22. *Licensing and Permits.*** - No person, association,
5 corporation, or entity shall organize, operate, manage, conduct, or participate
6 in such races without first securing the appropriate license and permit from
7 the Corporation. The Corporation shall prescribe the qualifications,
8 documentary requirements, fees, and procedures for the issuance,
9 suspension, or revocation of licenses and permits for these races.

10 **CHAPTER VI** 11 **FISCAL PROVISIONS**

12 **SEC. 23. *Budgetary Support.*** - The initial and supplemental
13 requirements to implement the compensation adjustments for the Board, the
14 institutionalization of the Compensation Fund, and the operations of the
15 National Stud Farm shall be charged against the existing appropriations of
16 the Philippine Racing Commission, which shall, upon the effectivity of this
17 Act, accrue to and be administered by the Philippine Racing Corporation, and
18 such other available funds.

19 Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary for the operations and
20 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
21 Appropriations Act, without prejudice to the authority of the Corporation to
22 use its lawful revenues, fees, charges, grants, donations, and other income,
23 subject to applicable laws, rules, and regulations governing government-
24 owned or controlled corporations.

25 **SEC. 24. *Tax Exemption of the Fund.*** - All incomes, donations, and
26 contributions to the Compensation Fund, and all benefits paid therefrom,
27 shall enjoy such tax treatment and exemptions as may be provided under
28 existing tax laws and regulations, or as may hereafter be granted by Congress.

29 **CHAPTER VII** 30 **TRANSITORY AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

31
32 **SEC. 25. *Abolition of the Philippine Racing Commission; Transfer***
33 ***of Assets, Personnel, Records, and Pending Matters.*** - Upon the effectivity
34 of this Act, the Philippine Racing Commission created under Presidential
35 Decree No. 420, as amended, is hereby abolished, and all its powers,
36 functions, duties, rights, obligations, liabilities, contracts, pending cases,
37 licenses, permits, orders, issuances, personnel, assets, funds, properties,

1 records, and documents are hereby transferred to the Philippine Racing
2 Corporation.

3 All real and personal properties, funds, records, contracts, documents,
4 rights, obligations, and liabilities vested in, owned by, held by, administered
5 by, or pertaining to the Philippine Racing Commission upon the effectivity of
6 this Act shall be transferred to the Corporation without need of conveyance,
7 transfer, or assignment, subject to applicable accounting, auditing, property,
8 budgetary, and procurement laws, rules, and regulations.

9 All existing licenses, permits, orders, rules, regulations, decisions,
10 approvals, authorities, certificates, and issuances issued, made, granted, or
11 allowed to take effect by the Philippine Racing Commission shall remain valid
12 and effective according to their terms unless revoked, amended, superseded,
13 or repealed by the Corporation in accordance with law.

14 No suit, action, investigation, administrative proceeding, disciplinary
15 proceeding, claim, appeal, or cause of action commenced by or against the
16 Philippine Racing Commission, or by or against any officer thereof in an
17 official capacity, shall abate by reason of this Act. Such suits, actions,
18 investigations, administrative proceedings, disciplinary proceedings, claims,
19 appeals, or causes of action may be continued by or against the Corporation
20 or the proper officer thereof.

21 All references to the Philippine Racing Commission in existing
22 contracts, permits, licenses, authorities, issuances, records, rules,
23 regulations, proceedings, and other instruments shall be deemed to refer to
24 the Philippine Racing Corporation, unless the context clearly indicates
25 otherwise.

26 Existing personnel of the Philippine Racing Commission shall be
27 absorbed by the Corporation, subject to civil service laws, merit and fitness,
28 the approved staffing pattern and organizational structure of the Corporation,
29 the Compensation and Position Classification System applicable to
30 government-owned or controlled corporations, and the rules and regulations
31 of the Governance Commission for GOCCs, the Department of Budget and
32 Management, the Civil Service Commission, the Commission on Audit, and
33 other appropriate government agencies, without diminution of vested rights.

34 **SEC. 26. Promulgation of Revised Omnibus Rules on Racing and**
35 **Breeding.** - Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, the Corporation
36 shall undertake a comprehensive review and consolidation of all existing rules
37 and regulations governing the conduct of horse racing, disciplinary measures,
38 licensing, the Compensation Fund, and shall promulgate new and updated

1 policies, rules, and regulations on the importation and breeding of racehorses
2 under the National Stud Farm, with the objective of issuing a Revised
3 Omnibus Rules on Horse Racing and Breeding, harmonized with the
4 provisions of this Act.

5 Within the same period, the Corporation shall likewise promulgate the
6 necessary rules and regulations governing racing for other animals. In
7 drafting these implementing rules and regulations, the Corporation shall
8 consult with relevant government agencies and stakeholders.

9 **SEC. 27. Repealing Clause.** - The following laws and issuances are
10 hereby repealed or amended:

- 11 a. Presidential Decree No. 420, as amended, is hereby repealed, and its
12 relevant provisions are hereby incorporated, revised, or restated
13 under this Act.
- 14 b. Republic Act No. 6115 is hereby amended or repealed insofar as it is
15 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, particularly on the
16 Jockeys and Horse Trainers Injury, Disability and Death
17 Compensation Fund, and the authority of the Corporation to review
18 and adjust the schedule of compensation and benefits.
- 19 c. All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations, or
20 parts thereof, inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are
21 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

22 **SEC. 28. Separability Clause.** - If, for any reason, any section or
23 provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or
24 provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

25 **SEC. 29. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
26 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2)
27 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,