

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6919  
(In substitution of House Bill No. 6351)

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Introduced by REPS. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ, FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ  
and FRANZ E. ALVAREZ

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AN ACT

AMENDING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PHILIPPINE COLLECTIVE MEDIA CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9773, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE PHILIPPINE COLLECTIVEMEDIA CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN REGION VIII (EASTERN VISAYAS)"

1           **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9773 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2           "SECTION. 1. *Nature and Scope of Franchise.* — Subject to the provisions of  
3           the

4           Constitution and applicable laws, rules and regulations, there is hereby granted to Philippine  
5           Collective Media Corporation, hereunder referred to as the grantee, its successor- or  
6           assignees, a franchise to construct, install, establish, operate, and maintain for commercial  
7           purposes and in the public interest, radio and/or television broadcasting stations in [Region  
8           VIII (Eastern Visayas)] THE PHILIPPINES, where frequencies and/or channels are still available  
9           for radio and/or television broadcasting, INCLUDING DIGITAL TELEVISION SYSTEM, through  
10          microwave, satellite or whatever means, AS WELL AS the use of any new technologY[ies] in  
11          TELEVISION AND radio [and television broadcasting] SYSTEMS, with the corresponding  
12          technological auxiliaries and facilities, special broadcast and other program and distribution  
13          services and relay stations."

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15          **SEC. 2.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9773 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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17          "SEC. 3. *Prior Approval of the National Telecommunications Commission.* — The  
18          grantee shall secure from the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) the  
19          appropriate permits and licenses for the construction and operation of its stations OR [and]  
20          facilities and shall not use any frequency in the radio/television spectrum  
21          without AUTHORIZATION [having been authorized from] BY the NTC [Commission].  
22          The NTC [Commission], however, shall not unreasonably withhold or delay the grant  
23          of any such authority.

24  
25          THE GRANTEE SHALL NOT DISPOSE OR LEASE ITS FACILITIES EXCEPT TO ENTITIES  
26          WITH A RADIO OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING FRANCHISE: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE GRANTEE  
27          SHALL INFORM AND SECURE WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION FROM THE NTC TO PROCEED WITH  
28          SUCH

1 DISPOSAL OR LEASE, AND REPORT THE TRANSACTION TO THE NTC WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS  
2 AFTER ITS COMPLETION: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT THE NTC SHALL DETERMINE THE  
3 CORRESPONDING SANCTION FOR ANY VIOLATION OF THIS PROVISION.  
4

5 THE NTC SHALL HAVE AUTHORITY TO REVOKE OR SUSPEND, AFTER DUE PROCESS,  
6 THE PERMITS OR LICENSES OF THE GRANTEE FOR ANY VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF  
7 THE FRANCHISE, AND MAY RECOMMEND TO CONGRESS THE REVOCATION OF THE  
8 FRANCHISE FOR ANY VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS THEREOF.  
9

10 **SEC. 3.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9773 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
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12 "**SEC 4. Responsibility to the Public.** — The grantee shall provide, FREE OF CHARGE,  
13 adequate public service time WHICH IS REASONABLE AND SUFFICIENT to enable the  
14 government, through the [said] GRANTEE'S broadcasting stations or facilities, to reach the  
15 PERTINENT populationS OR PORTIONS THEREOF, on important public issues, AND  
16 RELAY IMPORTANT PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WARNINGS CONCERNING  
17 PUBLIC EMERGENCIES AND CALAMITIES, AS NECESSITY, URGENCY OR THE LAW MAY  
18 REQUIRE; provide at all times sound and balanced programming; PROMOTE PUBLIC  
19 PARTICIPATION; assist in the functions of public information and education; conform to the  
20 ethics of honest enterprise; PROMOTE AUDIENCE SENSIBILITY AND EMPOWERMENT  
21 INCLUDING CLOSED CAPTIONING; and not use its stations [and] OR facilities for the  
22 broadcasting of obscene [and] OR indecent language, speech, act or scene; or for the  
23 dissemination of deliberately false information or willful misrepresentation, to the  
24 detriment of the public interest[,]; or to incite, encourage or assist in subversive or  
25 treasonable acts.  
26

27 "PUBLIC SERVICE TIME REFERRED HEREIN SHALL BE EQUIVALENT TO A  
28 MAXIMUM AGGREGATE OF TEN (10%) PERCENT OF THE PAID COMMERCIALS OR  
29 ADVERTISEMENTS WHICH SHALL BE ALLOCATED BASED ON NEED TO THE EXECUTIVE  
30 AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES, THE JUDICIARY, CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSIONS,  
31 AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS DULY RECOGNIZED BY  
32 STATUTES: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE NTC SHALL INCREASE THE PUBLIC SERVICE TIME IN  
33 CASE OF EXTREME EMERGENCY OR CALAMITY. THE NTC SHALL ISSUE RULES AND  
34 REGULATIONS FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE EFFECTIVITY OF WHICH SHALL COMMENCE  
35 UPON APPLICABILITY WITH OTHER SIMILARLY SITUATED BROADCAST NETWORK  
36 FRANCHISE HOLDERS."  
37

38 PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8370, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
39 "CHILDREN'S TELEVISION ACT OF 1997", THE GRANTEE SHALL ALLOT A MINIMUM OF  
40 FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%) OF THE DAILY TOTAL AIR TIME OF EACH BROADCASTING NETWORK  
41 TO CHILD-FRIENDLY SHOWS WITHIN ITS REGULAR PROGRAMMING.  
42

43 **SEC. 4.** A new Section 15 is hereby inserted to read as follows:  
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45 "**SEC. 15. COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE AND PROMOTE THE CREATION**  
46 **OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.** — THE GRANTEE SHALL CREATE  
47 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AS WELL AS ACCEPT ON-THE-JOB TRAINEES IN  
48 THEIR FRANCHISE OPERATIONS: *PROVIDED*, THAT PRIORITY SHALL BE ACCORDED TO THE  
49 RESIDENTS OF THE PLACE WHERE THE PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF THE GRANTEE IS LOCATED:  
50 *PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT THE GRANTEE SHALL COMPLY WITH THE APPLICABLE  
51 LABOR STANDARDS AND ALLOWANCE ENTITLEMENT UNDER EXISTING LABOR LAWS,  
52 RULES AND REGULATIONS AND SIMILAR ISSUANCES: *PROVIDED, FINALLY*, THAT THE  
53 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OR JOBS  
54

1 CREATED SHALL BE REFLECTED IN THE GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET (GIS) TO  
2 BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) ANNUALLY.”  
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4 **SEC. 5.** Section 15 of Republic Act No. 9773 is hereby renumbered as Section 16, and  
5 amended to read as follows:  
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7 “SEC. 1[5]6. *Reportorial Requirement.* — The grantee shall submit an annual report to  
8 the Congress of the Philippines, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES OF  
9 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES OF THE  
10 SENATE, on its compliance with the terms and conditions of the franchise and on [its  
11 operations within sixty (60) days from the end] OR BEFORE APRIL 30 of every year DURING  
12 THE TERM OF ITS FRANCHISE.  
13

14 “THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL INCLUDE AN UPDATE ON THE ROLL-OUT,  
15 DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND/OR EXPANSION OF BUSINESS; AUDITED FINANCIAL  
16 STATEMENTS; LATEST GIS OFFICIALLY SUBMITTED TO THE SEC, IF APPLICABLE;  
17 CERTIFICATION OF THE NTC ON THE STATUS OF ITS PERMITS AND OPERATIONS; AND AN  
18 UPDATE ON THE DISPERSAL OF OWNERSHIP UNDERTAKING, IF APPLICABLE.  
19

20 “THE REPORTORIAL COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY CONGRESS SHALL BE  
21 REQUIRED BEFORE ANY APPLICATION FOR PERMIT OR CERTIFICATE IS ACCEPTED BY  
22 THE NTC.”  
23

24 **SEC. 6.** A new Section 17 is hereby inserted to read as follows:  
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26 “SEC. 17. *FINE.* — FAILURE OF THE GRANTEE TO SUBMIT THE REQUISITE  
27 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS SHALL BE PENALIZED BY A FINE OF FIVE HUNDRED PESOS  
28 (P500.00) PER WORKING DAY OF NONCOMPLIANCE. THE FINE SHALL BE COLLECTED BY THE  
29 NTC FROM THE DELINQUENT FRANCHISE GRANTEE SEPARATE FROM THE REPORTORIAL  
30 PENALTIES IMPOSED BY THE NTC AND THE SAME SHALL BE REMITTED TO THE BUREAU OF  
31 TREASURY.”  
32

33 **SEC. 7. *Repealability and Non-exclusivity Clause.*** — This franchise shall be subject to  
34 amendment, alteration, or repeal by the Congress of the Philippines when the public interest  
35 so requires and shall not be interpreted as an exclusive grant of the privileges herein  
36 provided for.  
37

38 **SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.*** — If any of the sections or provisions of this Act is held  
39 invalid, all other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.  
40

41 **SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** — All laws, decrees, orders, resolutions, instructions, rules  
42 and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the  
43 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.  
44

45 **SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in  
46 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.  
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48 Approved,