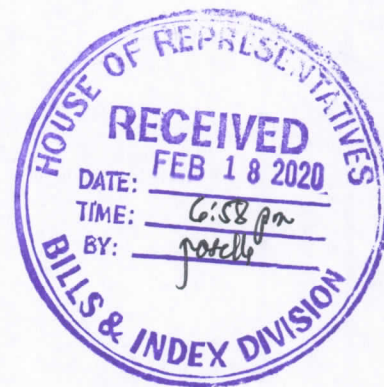


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 28

Introduced by: **Rep. Raul V. Del Mar**

**JOINT RESOLUTION
EXTENDING THE FRANCHISE OF ABS-CBN CORPORATION
UNTIL THE END OF THIS 18TH CONGRESS ON JUNE 30 2022**

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7966 grants ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation a franchise to "construct, install, operate and maintain, for commercial purposes and in the public interest, television and radio broadcasting stations in and throughout the Philippines, through microwave, satellite, or whatever means including the use of any new technologies in television and radio systems, with the corresponding technological auxiliaries or facilities, special broadcast and other broadcast distribution services and relay stations;"

WHEREAS, enacted into law on 30 March 1995, Republic Act No. 7966 provides that the franchise of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation shall be for a term of twenty-five (25) years from the effectivity of the Act, or until 30 March 2020;

WHEREAS, the twelve (12) bills filed in the House of Representatives seeking to renew the franchise of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation remain pending in the Committee on Legislative Franchises;

WHEREAS, on 10 February 2020, the Solicitor General filed a *quo warranto* petition at the Supreme Court to forfeit the legislative franchise of ABS-CBN Corporation and its subsidiary, ABS-CBN Convergence, for alleged violations of the terms and conditions of its franchise;

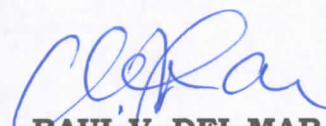
WHEREAS, on 12 February 2020, Senator Grace Poe filed Proposed Senate Resolution No. 322 to inquire into, in aid of legislation, the operations of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of its franchise;

WHEREAS, since there are only eleven (11) session days left before the next adjournment of Congress on 14 March 2020, both the House of Representatives and the Senate need additional time to review, assess and determine whether or not ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation shall be granted the renewal of its franchise;

WHEREAS, this will enable Congress to discharge its constitutional duty of protecting public interest in the grant and repeal of franchises, without trampling on rights to due process and infringing on free press and free speech: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, To extend the franchise of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation until the end of this 18th Congress on June 30, 2022.

Adopted.



RAUL V. DEL MAR