

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

18TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1594



**Introduced by Representatives Michael L. Romero and
Enrico A. Pineda**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the Republic of the Philippines, It shall be the policy of the State to effect the necessary and proper changes in the organizational and functional structures of the Philippine Statistical System (PSS), its agencies and instrumentalities, in order to rationalize and promote efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of statistical services, maintain an integrated statistical system characterized by independence, objectivity and integrity so as to enhance responsiveness to the requirements of equitable national development.

This House Bill seeks to promote the orderly development of a statistical system capable of providing timely, accurate and useful data for the government and the public, and support decentralization through the establishment of the statistical infrastructure necessary to service the statistical needs of local development planning, to implement stiffer penalties and sanctions and provide additional operational and organizational funding for the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.



MICHAEL L. ROMERO Ph.D.



ENRICO A. PINEDA

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AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10625 OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS “The Philippine Statistical Act of 2013”, TO FOSTER THE
IMPOSITION OF ALL EXISTING POLICIES AND GUIDELINES,
INCREASING ITS PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representative of the Philippines
in congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY -

Section 27 of Republic Act No. 10625, is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 27. Penalties – Respondents of primary data collection activities such as censuses and sample surveys are obliged to give truthful and complete answers to statistical inquiries. The gathering, consolidation and analysis of such data shall likewise be done in the most truthful and credible manner.

To ensure compliance, any violation of this Act shall result in the imposition of the penalty of Two **(2)** years imprisonment and a fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos **(P200,000.00)**.

In cases where the respondent who fails to give a truthful and complete answer to such statistical inquiries is a corporation, the above penalty shall be imposed against the responsible officer, director, manager and/or agent of said corporation.

In addition, such erring corporation or any other juridical entity, depending on the category of the enterprise or business concerned whether small, medium or large, shall be imposed a fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos **(P200,000.00)** to One million pesos **(P1,000,000.00)**.

Any person, including parties within the PSA Board and the PSA, who breach the confidentiality of information, whether by carelessness, improper behavior, behavior with malicious intent, and use of confidential information for profit, are considered guilty of an offense and shall be liable to fines as prescribed by the PSA Board which shall not be less than Fifty thousand pesos **(P50,000.00)** but not more than One hundred thousand pesos **(P100,000.00)** and/or imprisonment of not less than six **(6)** months but not to exceed two **(2)** years, subject to the degree of breach of information.

Failure to comply with the survey clearance provision shall be penalized by a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos **(P100,000.00)** to Three hundred thousand pesos **(P300,000.00)**, depending on the gravity and seriousness of such noncompliance.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY -

Section 31 of Republic Act No. 10625, is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 31. Funds for Reorganization – The amount necessary for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be taken from funds available to the agencies enumerated in Section 28 hereof (RA10625).

Additional requirements shall be charged to the appropriations under the current General Appropriations Act (GAA).

Thereafter, such sum as may be needed for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The amount of Two hundred million pesos (**₱200,000,000.00**) shall hereby be appropriated as additional operational and organizational funding to carry-out the mandates of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

SECTION 3. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The departments and agencies charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act shall, within sixty (**60**) days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 4. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,