

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1647



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Introduced by HON. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA  
4TH DISTRICT, BULACAN

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The present composition, organizational structure, as well as the powers and functions of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) must be such as to enable the Board to effectively perform its mandate under Presidential Decree No. 1986 and address the issues that may either lead to or contribute to the demeaning of women. It has to remain relevant and strong in a modernizing society such as the Philippines, for the protection of the dignity of Filipinas, among others.

The present legal framework from which the Board derives its mandate must be upgraded to better address the problems that bear upon the dignity of women. Unscrupulous individuals take advantage of the rapid advancement of technology to make a fast cash at the expense of women in advertisements, television, programs and shows. The MTRCB should halt this erosion of the moral fiber of our society. This decadence must stop.

This proposed bill is filed in the hope that the systems and procedures of the Board will be re-designed with the end in view to better equip the censors Board to help preserve and enhance the dignity and worth of the human person, in general and womanhood, in particular.

This bill was filed during the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Congresses. Due to time constraints, however, no further action was taken on it. This bill is filed for the consideration of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Support for the enactment of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
REP. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA

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AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE MOVIE AND  
TELEVISION REVIEW AND CLASSIFICATION BOARD (MTRCB), AMENDING FOR THE  
PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE No. 1986 CREATING THE MTRCB

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

SECTION 1. Section is hereby amended as follows:

SEC. 2. *Composition; Qualification; Benefits.* - The BOARD SHALL BE SUBDIVIDED AND SHALL PERFORM ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AS SUCH UNDER THE: (1) POLICY FORMULATION COUNCIL; (2) REVIEW COUNCIL; AND (3) ADJUDICATION COUNCIL.

(1) POLICY FORMULATION COUNCIL – IT SHALL CONSIST OF TWO (2) EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS, NAMELY: THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY RELATIONS AND THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY, WHO SHALL BE AUTOMATIC MEMBERS OF THE BOARD; AND THREE (3) PERMANENT MEMBERS, ONE (1) OF WHOM SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE INTEGRATED BAR OF THE PHILIPPINES (IBP).

THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNCIL WHO SHALL HAVE THE SAME RANK AND SALARY OF AN UNDERSECRETARY OF A DEPARTMENT AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE SALARY STANDARDIZATION LAW; AS WELL AS MEMBERS WHO SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR A PERIOD OF

THREE (3) YEARS UNLESS SOONER REMOVED BY THE PRESIDENT; *PROVIDED*, THAT, THEY SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR RE-APPOINTMENT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE TERMS; *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT NO CHAIRPERSON OR MEMBER SHALL SERVE FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) CONSECUTIVE TERMS. IF THE PERSON APPOINTED TO FILL THE VACANCY SHALL SERVE ONLY FOR THE UNEXPIRED PORTION OF THE VACATED TERM WHOM HE OR SHE SUCCEEDS: *PROVIDED, FINALLY*, THAT, SUCH SERVICE OF THE UNEXPIRED PORTION SHALL NOT BE COUNTED AS A TERM.

(2) REVIEW COUNCIL – THE REVIEW COUNCIL SHALL CONSIST OF THIRTY (30) MEMBERS, *PROVIDED*, THAT IN THE SELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, DUE CONSIDERATION SHALL BE GIVEN TO SUCH QUALIFICATIONS AS WOULD PRODUCE A MULTI-SECTORAL COMBINATION OF EXPERTISE IN THE VARIOUS AREAS OF MOTION PICTURE, TELEVISION AND ADVERTISEMENT; *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT NO MEMBER SHALL SERVE FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) CONSECUTIVE TERMS OF ONE (1) YEAR EACH.

(3) THE MEMBERS WHO SHALL BE UTILIZED TO ALLOWANCES PURSUANT TO THE SSL, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TELEVISION/CABLE INDUSTRY;

B. TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HOME VIDEO/MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY;

C. TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CINEMA INDUSTRY;

D. TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ADVERTISING INDUSTRY;

E. TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE YOUTH SECTOR;

F. TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE RELIGIOUS SECTOR; AND

G. ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE ACADEME.  
THE MEMBERS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO

ALLOWANCES, PURSUANT TO THE SALARY STANDARDIZATION LAW.

(3) ADJUDICATION COUNCIL – THE COUNCIL SHALL CONSIST OF THREE (3) PERMANENT MEMBERS WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT; *PROVIDED*, THAT THE CHAIRPERSON SHALL BE THE PRESIDING OFFICER, SHALL HAVE THE SAME RANK AS CHIEF STATE PROSECUTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ) AND THE VICE CHAIRPERSON SHALL BE THE PROSECUTOR; *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT TWO (2) MEMBERS SHALL ALTERNATELY COME FROM THE POLICY AND REVIEW COUNCILS, IN AN *AD HOC* CAPACITY; *PROVIDED, FINALLY*, THAT THE MEMBERS SHALL HAVE AN HONORARIA BASED ON PREVAILING LAWS.

THE MEMBERS SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS UNLESS SOONER REMOVED BY THE PRESIDENT FOR CAUSE: *PROVIDED*, THAT THEY SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR REAPPOINTMENT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE TERMS: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT NO MEMBER SHALL SERVE FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) CONSECUTIVE TERMS.

SEC. 2. Section 3 shall be amended as follows:

SEC. 3. *Powers and Functions.* - The BOARD shall have the following functions, powers and duties:

x x x

K) TO ISSUE ORDERS OF *SUBPOENA AD TESTIFICANDUM* AND *DUCE TECUM* TO COMPEL A PERSON TO ATTEND INVESTIGATIONS AND TESTIFY THEREIN OR PRODUCE PERTINENT DOCUMENTS FOR THIS PURPOSE.

x x x

SEC. 3. Section 10 shall be amended to read as follows:

SEC. 10. *Definition of Terms.* - For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall mean:

x x x

8. *COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS OF PRODUCTS* –  
THE ACT OR PRACTICE OF BRINGING ANYTHING  
INTO PUBLIC ATTENTION OR NOTICE AS ONE'S  
WANTS OR ONE'S COMMERCIAL BUSINESS BY  
PAID ANNOUNCEMENT IN PRINT AND BROADCAST  
MEDIA SO AS TO SECURE CUSTOMERS TO SELL OR  
HELP SELL CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act or any part thereof, is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, proclamations, rules, regulations, issuances and enactments or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its complete publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,