

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2303

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Social justice is made more vibrant and real with the presence of whistleblowers. They are the vanguards of justice that make sure that wrongdoings will go unpunished and that perpetrators of institutional misdeeds are brought to justice. They invoke inspiration in that they exemplify courage beyond reproach. By choosing to right a wrong, these brave men and women risk a lot including their very own lives.

Hence, the government must ensure the safety and welfare of whistleblowers. They should be encouraged to expose and testify as state witnesses against the misconduct of unscrupulous individuals without fear and reservation.

This bill seeks to ensure the best protection that the government can extend to the praiseworthy whistleblowers.

The immediate passage of this bill is, thus, earnestly sought.


WINNIE CASTELO

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE PROTECTION OF WHISTLEBLOWERS ENSURING THEIR SAFETY AND WELFARE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Whistleblower Protection Act of 2016."

SEC. 2. All whistleblowers or those who have come to the knowledge or have access to any information, fact or event constituting improper conduct and made such conduct publicly known shall be the subject of full protection by the government.

SEC. 3. The Department of Justice, in cooperation with the the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Commission on Human Rights, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective and immediate implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. The Department of Justice shall set down the penalty for the violation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. All laws, decrees, executive orders, letters of instructions, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect upon fifteen (15) days upon its approval, its publication in the Official Gazette, and in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,