

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1959



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

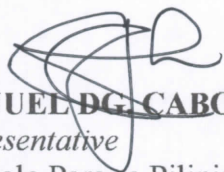
EXPLANATORY NOTE

There have been reports of unethical lobbying practices in Congress and unlawful consideration allegedly being offered to lawmakers for either the passage or defeat of legislative measures in both Houses and their Committees. For that reason, addressing this issue and the negative image it imparts to the public is seriously needed. Such reports, whether with or without basis, creates the impression that our country's lawmakers are "for sale" and that the legislative measures being advanced or deterred in Congress are mostly coming at certain prices.

Republic Act No. 1827 otherwise known as "An Act to Regulate Lobbying in the Congress of the Philippines and in the Commission on Appointments" was enacted on June 22, 1957 and sought to prohibit corrupt or undesirable methods of lobbying, to promote a high standard of ethics in the practice of lobbying, to prevent harassing unfair and unethical lobbying practices, and to provide for the licensing of lobbyists and the suspension or revocation of such licenses.

This bill, which seeks to amend R.A. No. 1827, essentially proposes to increase the penalties for those persons who practice unethical lobbying and use corrupt means to influence legislation and confirmation of appointment. It is envisioned that such measure shall curb corruption and undue influence in the passage and/or defeat of legislation, and also to deter unethical lobbying in the confirmation of appointments.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III
Representative
Magdalo Para sa Pilipino Party-List

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1827 SO AS TO IMPOSE
HIGHER PENALTIES FOR THOSE ENGAGED IN UNFAIR AND UNETHICAL
LOBBYING PRACTICES

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 1827 (RA 1827) is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3
4 **"Sec. 2. Corrupt means to influence legislation; disclosure of interest. -**

5 Any person who shall, directly or indirectly, give or agree or offer to give any
6 money or property or valuable thing or any security therefor to any person, for
7 the service of such person or of any other person in procuring the passage or
8 defeat of any measure before the Congress of the Philippines or before either
9 House or any committee thereof, upon the contingency or condition of the
10 passage or defeat of such measure, or who shall receive, directly or indirectly,
11 or agree to receive any such money, property, thing of value or security
12 therefor for such service, upon any such contingency or condition, or who,
13 having a pecuniary or other interest, or acting as the agent or attorney of any
14 person in procuring or attempting to procure the passage or defeat of any
15 measure before the Congress of the Philippines or before either House or any
16 committee thereof, shall attempt in any manner to influence any member of
17 said Congress for or against such measure, without first making known to such
18 member the real and true interest he has in such measure, either personally or
19 as such agent or attorney, shall be punished by imprisonment of not more than
20 [two] **SIX** years [or] **AND** by fine not exceeding [five thousand] **ONE**
21 **MILLION** pesos [or both such imprisonment and fine]. **FURTHER, IF**
22 **SUCH PERSON IS HOLDING ANY ELECTIVE OR APPOINTIVE**
23 **PUBLIC OFFICE, HE SHALL BE SUBJECTED TO THE PENALTY**
24 **OF PERPETUAL DISQUALIFICATION FROM HOLDING ANY**
25 **PUBLIC OFFICE.**

26
27 **SEC. 2.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 1827 (RA 1827) is hereby amended to read as
28 follows:

1 "Sec. 3. *Corrupt or secret means to influence confirmation of*
2 *appointment.* - Any person who shall, directly or indirectly, give or agree or
3 offer to give any money or property or valuable thing or any security therefor
4 to any person, for the service of such person or of any other person in
5 procuring the confirmation or rejection or by-passing of any appointment
6 before the Commission on Appointments or before any committee thereof,
7 upon the contingency or condition of the confirmation or rejection or by-
8 passing of such appointment, or who shall receive, directly or indirectly, or
9 agree to receive any such money, property, thing of value or security therefor
10 for such service, upon any such contingency or condition, or who, having an
11 appointment in his favor pending before the Commission on Appointments or
12 before any committee thereof, shall through secret or clandestine methods
13 attempt in any manner to influence any member of such Commission to vote
14 for confirmation of such appointment, shall be punished by imprisonment of
15 not more than [two] **SIX** years [or] **AND** by fine not exceeding [five thousand)
16 **ONE MILLION** pesos [or 2 both such imprisonment and fine]. **FURTHER,**
17 **IF SUCH PERSON IS HOLDING ANY ELECTIVE OR APPOINTIVE**
18 **PUBLIC OFFICE, HE SHALL BE SUBJECTED TO THE PENALTY**
19 **OF PERPETUAL DISQUALIFICATION FROM HOLDING ANY**
20 **PUBLIC OFFICE.**

21
22 **SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations
23 and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or
24 modified accordingly.

25
26 **SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
27 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
28 circulation.

Approved,