FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)

Third Regular Session

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SENATE

S. B. No. ____3103

(In substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 46 and 674, Senate Resolution No. 312, taking into consideration House Bill No. 4660)

Introduced by Senators Sotto III, Ejercito Estrada, Villar and Honasan II

"AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 21 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002"

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

SECTION 1. Section 21 of Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the 1

"Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002," is hereby amended to read as

follows: 3

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"SEC. 21. Custody and Disposition of Confiscated, Seized, and/or Surrendered Dangerous Drugs, Plant Sources of Dangerous Controlled Precursors and Essential Chemicals, Instruments/Paraphernalia and/or Laboratory Equipment. - The PDEA shall take charge and have custody of all dangerous drugs, plant sources of dangerous drugs, controlled precursors and essential chemicals, as well as instruments/paraphernalia and/or laboratory equipment so confiscated, seized and/or surrendered, for proper disposition in the following manner:

"1) The apprehending team having initial custody and control of the CONTROLLED **PRECURSORS DANGEROUS** drugs. ESSENTIAL CHEMICALS, INSTRUMENTS OR PARAPHERNALIA AND LABORATORY EQUIPMENT shall, immediately after seizure and confiscation, physically inventory and photograph the same in the presence of the accused or the person/s from whom such items were confiscated and/or seized, or his/her representative or counsel, WITH AN ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIAL WHO HAS JURISDICTION OVER **TOGETHER** OF THE CRIME, WITH THE SCENE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OR THE MEDIA [a representative from the media and the Department of Justice (DOJ), and any elected public official] who shall be required to sign the copies of the inventory and be given a copy thereof[.]: PROVIDED, THAT THE FAILURE ON THE PART OF THE INVITED

REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE INVENTORY WITHOUT A 1 VALID CAUSE WOULD MERIT ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS: 2 PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE PHYSICAL INVENTORY AND 3 PHOTOGRAPH SHALL BE CONDUCTED AT THE PLACE WHERE 4 THE SEARCH WARRANT IS SERVED; OR AT THE NEAREST 5 POLICE STATION OR AT THE NEAREST OFFICE OF THE 6 **APPREHENDING** OFFICER/TEAM, WHICHEVER 7 PRACTICABLE. IN CASE OF WARRANTLESS **SEIZURES:** 8 PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT NON-COMPLIANCE OF THESE 9 REQUIREMENTS UNDER JUSTIFIABLE GROUNDS. AS LONG AS 10 THE INTEGRITY AND THE EVIDENTIARY VALUE OF THE SEIZED 11 ITEMS ARE PROPERLY PRESERVED BY THE APPREHENDING 12 OFFICER/TEAM, SHALL NOT RENDER VOID AND INVALID SUCH 13 SEIZURES AND CUSTODY OVER SAID ITEMS; 14

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- SEC. 2. Separability Clause. If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
- SEC. 3. Repealing Clause. All laws, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 4. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect after fifteen days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

 Approved,