SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)

Senate Office af the Secretary

Third Regular Session

SENATE

s. No. 1924

18 AUG -8/ R5:09

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" Trillanes IV

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 3 (I) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6713 OR THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

Republic Act No. 6713 or the "Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees" provides for the ethical standards by which every public official and employee must comply. Particularly, Section 2 states that

"It is the policy of the State to promote a high standard of ethics in public service. Public officials and employees shall at all times be accountable to the people and shall discharge their duties with utmost responsibility, integrity, competence, and loyalty, act with patriotism and justice, lead modest lives, and uphold public interest over personal interest."

Ultimately, it is the responsibility of public officials and employees to order their own private lives in such a way that it does not affect or impinge the performance of their public duties. This responsibility includes ensuring that there is no conflict of interest between their public functions and personal interest, especially in the conduct of government dealings.

Thus, this proposed measure seeks to expand the definition of conflict of interest to include the exertion of undue influence by a public official or employee in pursuing government dealings for the purpose of personal gain or benefit.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV

Senator

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

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 6713 (RA 6713) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 3. Definition of Terms. — As used in this Act, the term:

(i) "Conflict of interest" arises when a public official or employee is a member of a board, an officer, or a substantial stockholder of a private corporation or owner or has a substantial interest in a business, and the interest of such corporation or business, or his rights or duties therein, may be opposed to or affected by the faithful performance of official duty. EXERTING UNDUE INFLUENCE IN GOVERNMENT DEALINGS FOR ONE'S BENEFIT OR PERSONAL GAIN IS ALSO CONSIDERED CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

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SEC. 2. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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SEC. 3. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,