

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8082, July 06, 1995]

AN ACT GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO SULU-TAWI-TAWI BROADCASTING FOUNDATION, INC., TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN STATIONS FOR RADIO AND TELEVISION IN THE PROVINCES OF SULU AND TAWI-TAWI, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Nature and Scope of Franchise.* — Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and applicable laws, rules and regulations, there is hereby granted to the Sulu-Tawi-Tawi Broadcasting Foundation, Inc., hereunder referred to as the grantee, its successors or assigns a franchise to construct, install, operate and maintain for commercial purposes and in the public interest, radio and/or television broadcasting stations in the provinces of Sulu and Tawi-Tawi, at such places as the grantee may select and the National Telecommunications Commission may approve with the corresponding technological auxiliaries or facilities, special broadcast, other program and distribution services and relay stations, and to install radio communication facilities for the grantee's private use in its broadcast services.

SEC. 2. *Manner of Operation of Stations or Facilities.* — The stations or facilities of the grantee shall be constructed and operated in a manner as will at most result only in the minimum interference on the wavelengths or frequencies of the other existing stations or stations which may be established by law without in any way diminishing its own right to use its selected wavelengths or frequencies and the quality of transmission or reception thereon and should maximize rendition of the grantee's services and/or the availability thereof.

SEC. 3. *Prior Approval of the National Telecommunications Commission.* — The grantee shall secure from the National Telecommunications Commission the appropriate permit and licenses for its stations and shall not use any frequency in the radio/television spectrum without having been authorized by the Commission. The Commission, however, shall not unreasonably withhold or delay the grant of any such authority.

SEC. 4. *Responsibility to the Public.* — The grantee shall provide adequate public service time to enable the government, through the said broadcasting stations, to reach the population on important public issues; provide at all times sound and balanced programming; assist in the functions of public information and education; conform to the ethics of honest enterprise; and not use its stations for the broadcasting of obscene and indecent language, speech, act or scene, or for the dissemination of deliberately false information or willful misrepresentation to the detriment of the public interest, or to incite, encourage, or assist in subversive or treasonable acts.