

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7163, November 17, 1991]

AN ACT GRANTING THE PROGRESSIVE BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN METRO MANILA AND IN REGIONS I, VI AND VII, 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 Progressive Broadcasting Corporation, 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 broadcasting stations and televisions in Metro Manila and in Regions 1, VI and VII with the corresponding technological auxiliaries or facilities for special broadcast and 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 as 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 permits and licenses for the technical aspects of its operations, particularly on its frequency assignment in the radio and television spectrum and equipment for its stations. The Commission, however, shall not unreasonably withhold or delay the grant of any such authority, nor impose unnecessary requirements that would impede immediate start of the contemplated service.

SEC. 4. *Responsibility to the Public.* - The grantee shall provide reasonable public service time to enable the Government, through the said television systems, to reach the population on important public issues; provide at all times sound and balanced programming; promote public participation such as in community, 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