

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2997, June 19, 1960]

AN ACT GRANTING THE EASTERN PHILIPPINE ELECTRONICS A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN PROVINCES AND CITIES WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES.

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

SECTION 1. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, as well as of Act Numbered Thirty-eight hundred forty-six, entitled "An Act providing for the regulation of radio stations and communications in the Philippine Islands, and for other purposes;" Commonwealth Act Numbered One hundred forty-six, known as the Public Service Act, and their amendments, and other applicable laws not inconsistent with this Act, the Eastern Philippine Electronics is hereby granted a franchise to construct, establish, maintain and operate for commercial purposes and in the public interest, radio broadcasting and television stations in provinces and cities within the Philippines: *Provided*, That this franchise shall be void unless the construction of at least one radio broadcasting or one television station be begun within three years from the date of approval of this Act, and be completed within five years from said date: *Provided, further*, That the grantee shall provide public service time to enable the Government, through the said radio broadcasting and television stations, to reach the population on important public issues; shall assist in the functions of public information and education; shall conform to the ethics of honest enterprise; and shall not use its stations for the broadcasting and/or telecasting of obscene or indecent language, act or scene, or for the dissemination of deliberately false information or willful misrepresentation, or to the detriment of the public health, or to incite, encourage, or assist in subversive or treasonable acts.

SEC. 2. In the event of any competing person, natural or juridical, receiving from the Congress a similar franchise in which there shall be any term or terms more favorable than those herein granted or tending to place the herein grantee at any disadvantage, then such term or terms shall *ipso facto* become a part of the terms hereof and shall operate equally in favor of the grantee as in the case of said competing person.

SEC. 3. A special right is hereby reserved to the President of the Philippines in time of war, insurrection, public peril or other national emergency and when public safety requires, to cause the closing of the grantee's radio station or stations or to authorize the use or possession thereof by any department of the Government without compensation to the grantee for the use of said station during the continuance of the national emergency.

SEC. 4. The grantee shall not require any previous censorship of any speech, play, act or scene or other matter to be broadcast and/or telecast from its stations; but if