Committee Report No. 702

Submitted by the Committee on Justice on DECEMBER 6, 2020

Re: House Bill No. 8268

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7668

Sponsor: Representative Vicente "Ching" S. E. Veloso III

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Justice, to which was referred House Bill No. 7668 introduced by Rep. Vicente "Ching" S. E. Veloso III, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLES 183 AND 184 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE";

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 8268 entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR PERJURY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 183 AND 184 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE"


Respectfully submitted,

VICENTE "CHING" S.E. VELOSO III
Chairperson
Committee on Justice

The Honorable Speaker
House of Representatives
Quezon City
Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8268


AN ACT  
INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR PERJURY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE  
ARTICLES 183 AND 184 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE  
KNOWN AS “THE REVISED PENAL CODE”

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

SECTION 1. Article 183 of Act No. 3815, as amended, otherwise known as The Revised Penal Code, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“ARTICLE 183. False Testimony in Other Cases and Perjury in Solemn Affirmation. — The penalty of [arresto mayor in its maximum period to prisión correccional in its minimum period] PRISION MAYOR IN ITS MINIMUM PERIOD TO PRISION MAYOR IN ITS MEDIUM PERIOD shall be imposed upon any person who, knowingly making untruthful statements and not being included in the provisions of the next preceding articles, shall testify under oath, or make an affidavit, upon any material matter before a competent person authorized to administer an oath in cases in which the law so requires.

Any person who, in case of a solemn affirmation made in lieu of an oath, shall commit any of the falsehoods mentioned in this and the three preceding articles of this section, shall suffer the respective penalties provided therein.

PROVIDED, THAT, IF THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COMMISSION OF THIS FELONY IS A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE, THE PENALTY SHALL BE IMPOSED IN ITS MAXIMUM PERIOD: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT, THE OFFENDER SHALL ALSO SUFFER A FINE NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION PESOS (P1,000,000.00) AND PERPETUAL ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION FROM HOLDING ANY APPOINTIVE OR ELECTIVE POSITION IN THE GOVERNMENT OR IN ANY AGENCY, ENTITY OR INSTRUMENTALITY THEREOF.”
SEC. 2. Article 184 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"ART. 184. Offering false testimony in evidence. — Any person who shall WILFULLY AND knowingly offer in evidence a false witness or testimony in any judicial or official proceeding, shall be punished as guilty of false testimony and shall suffer the respective penalties provided in this section.

SEC. 3. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions thereof.

SEC. 4. All laws, rules and regulations that may be inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,
House of Representatives
Committee Affairs Department

FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 8268
(in substitution of HB No. 7668)
(Approved by the Committee on December 16, 2020)

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLES 183 AND 184 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE


Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE
Committee Chairperson: REP. VICENTE “CHING” S.E. VELOSO III

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide a sufficient deterrent against false testimonies in all other instances, including legislative inquiries and hearings, where a person is required to testify or subscribe under oath, or through affidavits, or by solemn affirmation in lieu of an oath

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Increases the penalty for false testimony in other cases and perjury in solemn affirmation from arresto mayor in its maximum period (4 months 1 day to 6 months) to prision correccional in its minimum period (6 months 1 day to 2 years and 4 months), to prision mayor in its minimum period (6 years and 1 day up to 8 years) to prision correccional in its medium period (8 years 1 day to 10 years)

- Provides that if the person responsible for the commission of the offense is a public officer or employee, the penalty shall be imposed in its maximum period, and the offender shall also suffer a fine not to exceed One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) and the accessory penalty of perpetual absolute disqualification from holding any appointive or elective position in the government or in any agency, entity or instrumentality thereof.

RELATED LAWS:

- Act No. 3815, otherwise known as “The Revised Penal Code”