Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Revision of Laws to which were referred:

House Bill No. 408, introduced by Reps. Xavier Jesus "XJ" D. Romualdo, "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto and Ria Christina G. Fariñas, entitled:

"AN ACT
AMENDING ARTICLE 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 386, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CIVIL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, BY PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF LAWS IN THE PRINT OR ONLINE VERSION OF THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OR IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE PHILIPPINES, AS A REQUIREMENT FOR THEIR EFFECTIVITY"

House Bill No. 8595, introduced by Rep. John Pablo F. Garcia, entitled:

"AN ACT
AMENDING ARTICLE 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 386, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CIVIL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, TO INCLUDE THE ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF LAWS AS A REQUIREMENT FOR THEIR EFFECTIVITY"

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 9269, entitled:

"AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF LAWS IN THE PRINT OR ONLINE VERSION OF THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE AND OF A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION"

Respectfully submitted,

CHERYL P. DELOZO-MONTALLA
Chairperson
Committee on Revision of Laws

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. 9269
(In Substitution of House Bills Numbered 408 and 8595)


AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF LAWS IN THE PRINT OR ONLINE VERSION OF THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE AND OF A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION

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

SECTION 1. Article 2 of Republic Act No. 386, otherwise known as the Civil Code of the Philippines, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“ARTICLE 2. Laws shall take effect [after] fifteen (15) days [following the completion of] AFTER their publication [either] IN FULL, in the PRINT OR ONLINE VERSION OF THE Official Gazette, [or] AND in THE PRINT OR ONLINE VERSION OF A newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines, unless [it] A DIFFERENT PERIOD is otherwise [provided.] PRESCRIBED TO RESPOND TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY: PROVIDED, THAT PUBLICATION IN THE ONLINE VERSION OF THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE AND THE NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION SHALL INDICATE THE OFFICIAL DATE OF THE PUBLICATION.

AS USED IN THIS ACT, THE TERM “LAWS” SHALL REFER TO:

(1) ALL STATUTES ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES;

(2) ALL ORDERS, PROCLAMATIONS, CIRCULARS, AND OTHER ISSUANCES PROMULGATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES PURSUANT TO THE ORDINANCE...
POWER, AS PROVIDED FOR BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987; OR

(3) ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED TO IMPLEMENT OR ENFORCE STATUTES PURSUANT TO A VALID DELEGATION OF LEGISLATIVE POWER BY THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES."

SEC. 2. Section 18 of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, is hereby amended to read, as follows:

“Section 18. When Laws Take Effect. - Laws shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of their publication in the PRINT OR ONLINE VERSION OF THE Official Gazette [or] AND IN THE PRINT OR ONLINE VERSION OF [in] a newspaper of general circulation, unless [it] A DIFFERENT PERIOD is otherwise [provided] PRESCRIBED TO RESPOND TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY.”

SEC. 3. Sections 24 and 25 of the same Executive Order are hereby amended to read, as follows:

“Section 24. Contents. - There shall be published in the Official Gazette, IN ITS PRINT AND ONLINE VERSION, all legislative acts and resolutions of a public nature; all executive and administrative issuances of general application; decisions or abstracts of decisions of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals, or other courts of similar rank, as may be deemed by said courts of sufficient importance to be so published; such documents or classes of documents as may be required so to be published by law; and such documents or classes of documents as the President shall determine from time to time to have general application or which he may authorize so to be published.

The publication of any law, resolution or other official documents in the Official Gazette shall be prima facie evidence of its authority.”

“Section 25. Editing and Publications. - The Official Gazette shall be edited in the Office of the President and published weekly in [Pilipino] FILIPINO or in the English language IN PRINT OR THROUGH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE WEBSITE
MANAGED BY THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OR SUCH
OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR OFFICE AUTHORIZED
BY THE PRESIDENT. [II] THE PRINT VERSION OF THE
OFFICIAL GAZETTE shall be sold and distributed by the
National Printing Office which shall promptly mail copies thereof
to subscribers free of postage.”

SEC. 4. If any portion or provision of this Act is subsequently declared invalid or
unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain
in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. Executive Order No. 200, dated June 18, 1987, is hereby repealed.
Sections 18, 25 and 26 of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the
Administrative Code of 1987 are hereby amended. All other laws, acts, presidential
decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and
regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the
provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,
House of Representatives
Committee Affairs Department

FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 9269
(In Substitution of House Bills Numbered 408 and 8595)

“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF LAWS IN THE PRINT OR ONLINE
VERSION OF THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE AND OF A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL
CIRCULATION”

Introduced by: REPS. XAVIER JESUS “XJ” D. ROMUALDO, “KUYA” JOSE
ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO, JOHN MARVIN “YUL SERVO” C. NIETO, RIA
CHRISTINA G. FARIÑAS, PABLO JOHN F. GARCIA, RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ,
LAWRENCE “LAW” H. FORTUN, TYRONE D. AGABAS, GABRIEL H.
BORDADO, JR., ARLENE D. BROSAS AND CHERYL P. DELOSO-MONTALLA

Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS
Committee Chairperson: REP. CHERYL P. DELOSO-MONTALLA

OBJECTIVE:

• To simplify and easily publish laws through online versions of the Official
  Gazette and of a newspaper of general circulation.

KEY PROVISIONS:

• Includes online versions of the Official Gazette and newspapers of general
  circulation as means of publication of laws for their effectivity;

• Stipulates that a different period in the effectivity of laws may be prescribed to
  respond to a national emergency;

• Requires that the publication in the online version of the Official Gazette and
  the newspaper of general circulation shall indicate the official date of the
  publication;

• Defines the meaning of laws that need publication;
• Provides that the publication of the Official Gazette shall be in print or through the Official Gazette website managed by the Office of the President or its duly authorized government agency;

RELATED LAWS:

• Republic Act No. 386, otherwise known as the New Civil Code of the Philippines;
• Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987;