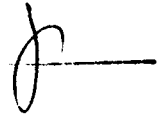


**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE** )  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
*First Regular Session* )

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**SENATE**

**P. S. Res. No. 344**

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Introduced by Senators **PIA S. CAYETANO, RONALD "BATO" M. DELA ROSA, CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE T. GO, IMEE R. MARCOS, RAMON BONG REVILLA JR., FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO, and CYNTHIA A. VILLAR ZUBIRI, PACQUIAO, ANSARA, VILLANUEVA, GATCHALIAN, BINAY**

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**RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE AUTHORIZING THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC) TO ISSUE A PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY TO ABS-CBN CORPORATION, ITS SUBSIDIARIES AND/OR AFFILIATES ABS-CBN CONVERGENCE, INC., SKY CABLE CORPORATION, AND AMCARA BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC., UNDER SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS THE NTC MAY DEEM NECESSARY, UNTIL CONGRESS' FINAL DISPOSITION OF THE FRANCHISE RENEWAL BILLS**

**WHEREAS**, Article VI, Section 24 of the 1987 Constitution states that "[a]ll appropriation, revenue or tariff bills, bills authorizing increase of the public debt, bills of local application, and private bills shall originate exclusively in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments.";

**WHEREAS**, the legislative franchise of ABS-CBN Corporation, granted by virtue of Republic Act No. 7966, is set to expire on 4 May 2020;

**WHEREAS**, the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), by virtue of Executive Order 546, Series of 1979, is given the authority to "[g]rant permits for the use of of radio frequencies for wireless telephone and telegraph systems and radio communication systems including amateur radio stations and radio and television broadcasting systems";<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Section 15 (c), EO 546, series of 1979.

**WHEREAS**, the House of Representatives informed the NTC in a letter dated 26 February 2020 that the House Committee on Legislative Franchises has already initiated deliberation on ABS-CBN Corporation's application for franchise renewal, and has instructed all interested parties to submit their position papers within sixty (60) days from 24 February 2020;

**WHEREAS**, in the same letter, the said House Committee urged the NTC to grant ABS-CBN Corporation and its subsidiaries with pending franchise applications, provisional authority to operate effective 5 May 2020, subject to the terms and conditions NTC deems appropriate in the matter of public interest;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Justice expressed that there is sufficient equitable basis for the NTC to issue a provisional authority to broadcast companies, under the terms and conditions as the NTC shall deem necessary, until Congress' final disposition of their franchise renewal bills.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to express the sense of the Senate authorizing the NTC to issue a provisional authority to ABS-CBN Corporation, its subsidiaries and/or affiliates ABS-CBN Convergence, Inc., Sky Cable Corporation, and Amcara Broadcasting Network, Inc., under such terms and conditions as the NTC may deem necessary, until the Congress' final disposition of the franchise renewal bills.

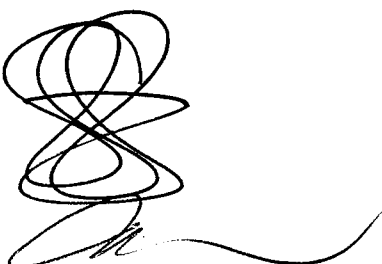
*Adopted,*

  
**PIA S. CAYETANO**

  
**CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE T. GO**

  
**RAMON BONG REVILLA JR.**

  
**CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**



  
**RONALD "BATO" M. DELA ROSA**

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**

  
**FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO**

