

# **[ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE No. 1776, January 14, 1980 ]**

## **FURTHER AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 576, ENTITLED "ABOLISHING THE MEDIA ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE BUREAU OF STANDARDS FOR MASS MEDIA, AND AUTHORIZING THE ORGANIZATION OF REGULATORY COUNCILS FOR PRINT MEDIA AND FOR BROADCAST MEDIA."**

WHEREAS, the important role of mass communications in national development necessitates the assumption by the government of an active role in promoting the development of mass media, consistent with the principle of press freedom and the need for social responsibility in its exercise;

WHEREAS, the self-regulating print and broadcast media councils or bodies authorized to be organized under Presidential Decree No. 576 have succeeded by and large in self-regulation, internal discipline and maintenance of standards for professional conduct and excellence;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to enhance the role of these councils or bodies not only in elevating the standards to excellence of mass media, but also in assisting the government in the enforcement of the laws, such as the nationality requirement in the Constitution, relating to mass media activities;

WHEREAS, it is desirable that the registration of mass media should be exercised in such a manner as to avoid the possibility of oligopolistic self-regulation, and thus afford greater opportunity for participation in mass media activities; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to improve upon the membership in the regulatory council for each mass media group by including prominent citizens who will represent the viewpoint of the general public and provide greater balance in the deliberations of the council.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree the following:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Presidential Decree No. 576, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. For purposes of this Decree, mass media shall be divided into two groups: Print Media and Broadcast Media. "Print Media" includes all newspapers, periodicals, magazines, journals, and publications and all advertising therein, and billboards, neon signs and the like. "Broadcast Media" includes radio and television broadcasting in all their aspects, including all forms of audio, visual or audio-visual communications such as video tapes, citizens band, and other similar electronic devices, and cinematography, to the extent that these forms are utilized as mass media through radio or television broadcasting transmission. The Print Media group and the Broadcasting Media group are hereby authorized to organize and determine the composition of a body or council within each group which shall be responsible for instituting and formulating systems of self-regulation and internal discipline within its own ranks; Provided, That there shall be adequate representation from the