

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11205, February 14, 2019]

AN ACT GRANTING THE DEUS AMOR EST BROADCASTING, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. *Nature and Scope of Franchise.* - Subject to the provisions of the Philippine Constitution and applicable laws, rules and regulations, there is hereby granted to Deus Amor Est Broadcasting, Inc., hereunder referred to as the grantee, its successors or assignees, a franchise to construct, install, establish, operate, and maintain for noncommercial purposes and in the public interest, radio and television . broadcasting stations in the Philippines, where frequencies or channels are still available for radio and television broadcasting, utilizing the technological advances or innovations in the future; to originate, distribute, transmit, and receive through said systems, news and documentaries, entertainment, informational and educational radio and television programs, both live and recorded; and to establish, construct, maintain, and operate such other systems as are essential and convenient to carry out the purpose of this franchise.

SEC. 2. *Manner of Operation of Stations or Facilities.* - The stations or facilities of the grantee shall be constructed and operated in a manner as will, at most, result only in the minimum interference on the wavelengths or frequencies of existing stations or other stations which may be established by law, without in any way diminishing its own privilege to use its assigned wavelengths or frequencies and the quality of transmission or reception thereon as should maximize rendition of the grantee's services and/or the availability thereof.

SEC. 3. *Prior Approval of the National Telecommunications Commission.* - The grantee shall secure from the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) the appropriate permits and licenses for the construction and operation of its stations or facilities and shall not use any frequency in the radio/television spectrum without authorization from the NTC. The NTC, however, shall not unreasonably withhold or delay the grant of any such authority.

The grantee shall not dispose nor lease its facilities except to entities with radio or television broadcasting franchise: *Provided*, That the grantee shall inform and secure written authorization to proceed from the NTC, and report the transaction to the NTC within sixty (60) days after its completion: *Provided, further*, That the NTC shall determine the corresponding sanction for any violation of this provision.

SEC. 4. *Responsibility to the Public.* - The grantee shall provide adequate public service time to enable the government, through the said broadcasting stations or facilities, to inform the population on important public issues; provide at all times

sound and balanced programming; assist in the performance of the functions of public information and education; conform to the ethics of honest enterprise; and to refrain from broadcasting obscene and indecent language, speech, act or scene, or disseminating deliberately false information or willful misrepresentation to the detriment of the public interest; or inciting, encouraging, or assisting in subversive or treasonable acts.

SEC. 5. *Right of the Government.* — The radio spectrum is a finite resource that is part of the national patrimony and the use thereof is a privilege conferred upon the grantee by the State and may be withdrawn any time after due process.

A special right is hereby reserved to the President of the Philippines, in times of war, rebellion, public peril, calamity, emergency, disaster, or disturbance of peace and order: to temporarily take over and operate the stations or facilities of the grantee; to temporarily suspend the operation of any station or facility in the interest of public safety, security and public welfare; or to authorize the temporary use and operation thereof by any agency of the government, upon due compensation to the grantee, for the use of the stations or facilities during the period when these shall be so operated.

SEC. 6. *Term of Franchise.* - This franchise shall be in effect for a period of twenty-five (25) years from the effectivity of this Act, unless sooner revoked or cancelled. This franchise shall be deemed *ipso facto* revoked in the event the grantee fails to comply with any of the following conditions:

- (a) Commence operations within one (1) year from the approval of its operating permit by the NTC;
- (b) Commence operations within three (3) years from the effectivity of this Act; and
- (c) Operate continuously for two (2) years.

SEC. 7. *Acceptance of Franchise.* - Acceptance of the terms of this franchise shall be given in writing to the Congress of the Philippines, through the Committee on Legislative Franchises of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Public Services of the Philippine Senate, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act. Upon giving such acceptance, the grantee shall exercise the privileges granted under this Act.

Nonacceptance of this franchise shall render it void.

SEC. 8. *Bond.* - The grantee shall file a bond with the NTC, in the amount that the NTC shall determine, to guarantee compliance with and fulfillment of the conditions under which this franchise is granted. If, after three (3) years from the date of the approval of its permit by the NTC, the grantee shall have fulfilled the same, the bond shall be released by the NTC. Otherwise, the bond shall be forfeited in favor of the government and the franchise *ipso facto* revoked.

SEC. 9. *Self-regulation by and Undertaking of the Grantee.* - The grantee shall not require any previous censorship of any speech, play, act or scene, or other matter to be broadcast from its stations, but if any such speech, play, act or scene, or other matter should constitute a violation of the law or infringement of a private right, the grantee shall be free from any liability, civil or criminal, for such speech, play, act or scene, or other matter: *Provided*, That the grantee, during any broadcast, shall cut off the airing of speech, play, act or scene, or other matter being broadcast if the