

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7859, January 21, 1995]

**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION ONE OF THE FRANCHISE OF
WORLDWIDE COMMUNICATIONS, INC., GRANTED UNDER
REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FIVE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED
TWENTY-ONE AND EXTENDING IT FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE
(25) YEARS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Section One of Republic Act Numbered Five thousand three hundred twenty-one is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. *Nature and Scope of Franchise.* - Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and applicable laws, rules and regulations on public telecommunications, there is hereby granted to Worldwide Communications, Inc., its successors or assigns a franchise to install, operate, maintain, lease and manage wire and/or wireless public telecommunications systems throughout the Philippines and between the Philippines and other countries and for the purpose of providing said telecommunications services, to construct, own, operate and maintain telecommunications systems in and between provinces, cities and municipalities of the Philippines, in, on, over or under lands and waters, as may be necessary and best adapted to the provision of telecommunications services, to contract for telecommunication lines in and between the Philippines and other countries and territories, to use any technology whether digital or analog, via cable, satellite, microwave, optical fiber, or any transmission, medium, and with such telecommunication apparatus as may be necessary for the provision of such telecommunication services, and to connect and keep connected its telecommunications systems to other telecommunication system."

SEC. 2. *Term of Franchise.* - The term of the franchise of Worldwide Communications, Inc., granted under Republic Act Numbered Five thousand three hundred twenty-one, is extended for another twenty-five (25) years from the date of effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 3. *Tax Provision.* - Section Fourteen of Republic Act Numbered Five thousand three hundred twenty-one is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 14. The grantee shall be liable to pay the same taxes on their real estate, buildings and personal property exclusive of this franchise, as other persons or telecommunication entities are now or hereafter may be required by law to pay. In addition thereto, the grantee shall pay the Bureau of Internal Revenue each year, three *per centum* (3%) of the