

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8155, September 23, 1995]

AN ACT GRANTING THE UNITED VISAYAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FOR RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, AND COMMERCIAL PURPOSES, RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE CENTRAL VISAYAS REGION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Nature and Coverage of Franchise.* - Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and applicable laws, rules and regulations, there is hereby granted to the United Visayan Broadcasting Corporation, Inc., its successors and assigns, and hereunder referred to as the grantee, a franchise to construct, install, operate and maintain for religious, educational, and commercial purposes and in the public interest, radio and television broadcasting stations within the Central Visayas Region with the corresponding technological auxiliaries or facilities, special broadcast and other program, distribution services and relay stations, and install radio communication facilities for the grantee's private use in its broadcast services.

SEC. 2. *Manner of Operation of Stations and Facilities.* -The stations and facilities of the grantee shall be constructed, installed and operated in a manner as will at most result only in the minimum interference on the wavelengths or frequencies of the other existing stations or stations which may be established by law, without in any way diminishing its own right to use its selected 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 the appropriate permits and licenses for its stations and shall not use any frequency in the radio/television spectrum without having been authorized by the Commission. The Commission, however, shall not unreasonably withhold or delay the grant of any such authority.

SEC. 4. *Responsibility to the Public.* - The grantee shall provide reasonable public service time to enable the government, through the said broadcasting stations, to reach the population on important public issues; provide at all times sound and balanced programming; promote public participation such as in community programming; assist in the functions of public information and education; conform to the ethics of honest enterprise; and not use its stations for the broadcasting of obscene and indecent language or speech, or for the dissemination of deliberately false information or willful misrepresentation to the detriment of the public interest,