

[**REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3196, June 17, 1961**]

AN ACT GRANTING THE NORTHERN BROADCASTING STATION COMPANY A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

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

SECTION 1. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, as well as of Act Numbered Thirty-eight hundred forty-six, entitled "An Act providing for the regulation of radio stations and radio communications in the Philippine Islands, and for other purposes;" Commonwealth Act Numbered One hundred forty-six, known as the Public Service Act, and their amendments, and other applicable laws not inconsistent with this Act, the Northern Broadcasting Station Company is hereby granted a franchise to construct, establish, maintain and operate for commercial purposes and in the public interest, radio broadcasting and television stations in the Philippines: *Provided*, That this franchise shall be void unless the construction of at least one radio broadcasting station or one television station be begun within two years from the date of approval of this Act, and be completed within four years from said date: *Provided, further*, That the grantee shall provide public service time to enable the Government, through the said radio broadcasting and television stations, to reach the population on important public issues; shall assist in the functions of public information and education; shall conform to the ethics of honest enterprise and shall not use its stations for the broadcasting" and/or telecasting of obscene or indecent language, act or scene, or for the dissemination of deliberately false information or willful misrepresentation, or to the detriment of the public health, or to incite, encourage, or assist in subversive or treasonable acts.

SEC. 2. In the event of any competing person, natural or judicial, receiving from the Congress a similar franchise in which there shall be any term or terms or more favorable than those herein granted or tending to place the herein grantee at any disadvantage, then such term or terms shall *ipso facto* become a part of the terms hereof shall operate equally in favor of the grantee as in the case of said competing person.

SEC. 3. A special right is reserved to the President of the Philippines in time of war, rebellion, public peril, emergency, calamity, disaster or disturbance of peace and order, to cause the closing of said stations or to authorize the temporary use and operation thereof by any department of the Government upon due compensation to the grantee for the use of said stations during the period when they shall be so operated.