

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2149



Introduced by: HON. CRISTINA "CHIQUI" ROA-PUNO

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PROPOSED RULES FOR MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WHEREAS, Section 4, Article III of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines guarantees the right to freedom of speech, of expression, and of the press.

WHEREAS, Articles I and III of the Rules of the House of Representatives underscores the House's commitment to encourage, guarantee and sustain people participation in legislation, "efficient and effective access to and dissemination of appropriate and accurate information," and "continually inform the public of legislative performance in all facets of legislative work..."

WHEREAS, the House recognizes the vital role of the press in ensuring democracy and freedom of information in our government, especially in the legislative process.

WHEREAS, the House likewise recognizes that is of primal importance to ensure public order and safety of all, including the legislators, employees, guests and visitors of the House of Representatives, and media personnel themselves.

WHEREAS, media coverage of news and other media operations or activities in the House are governed by various policies, rules and regulations – each issued at different times as the situation warrants it.

WHEREAS, there is a need to merge, codify, and amend the various rules on media coverage, in accordance with acceptable standards of courtesy, propriety, dignity and decorum to ultimately guide media representatives in their coverage of Plenary sessions, Committee hearings, and other news events in the House, and while they undertake press conferences, interviews and other media-related activities in the House, for the education, enlightenment and information of the public, on the basis of accurate and impartial news coverage.

WHEREAS, the Proposed Rules For Media Coverage was drafted with the assistance of the Press and Public Affairs Bureau, in consultation with the Office of the Speaker of the House, the Legal Department, the Secretariat, and even media practioners. To warrant that the Proposed Rules is at par with international standards on media coverage and press freedom, it was patterned after the rules of the House of Representatives of the United States of America and various parliaments of nations that rank highest in the press freedom index, such as the Norwegian Storting and the Swedish Rikstag.

WHEREAS, adoption of the Proposed Rules For Media Coverage of the House of Representatives is imperative to guarantee freedom of the press and of information, while ensuring public order and safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, that the House of Representatives **ADOPT** the attached **RULES FOR MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**.

Adopted,


REPRESENTATIVE CRISTINA "CHIQUI" ROA-PUNO