

Regarding Comprehensive Journalist Protection and Welfare Policy

Article 1 (Purpose and Scope) : This law aims to protect the rights and welfare of journalists, ensure the freedom of the press, and promote the development of the media industry. It applies to all journalists engaged in news reporting and media production within the Republic of Korea.

Article 2 (Definitions) : In this law, the following terms shall mean: (1) "Journalist" refers to a person who is registered as a journalist and engages in news reporting or media production. (2) "Media Organization" refers to a legal entity that engages in news reporting or media production. (3) "Editorial Board" refers to the body responsible for the editorial content of a media organization.

Article 3 (Registration and Qualification) : (1) Any person wishing to engage in news reporting or media production must first register as a journalist with the relevant authority. (2) To be eligible for registration, an applicant must possess the following qualifications: (a) A university degree in journalism, media studies, or a related field. (b) Completion of a prescribed training program. (c) No criminal record involving crimes related to the press or media. (3) The relevant authority may, upon application, grant exemptions from the registration requirements to individuals with exceptional journalistic skills or contributions to the media industry.

Article 4 (Rights and Obligations of Journalists) : (1) Journalists shall enjoy the right of access to information necessary for their work, including the right to interview public officials and access government documents. (2) Journalists shall be protected from undue interference or harassment by public officials or other entities. (3) Journalists shall have the obligation to report news truthfully and impartially, and to refrain from engaging in activities that may damage the reputation of the media or the public interest. (4) Journalists shall be subject to disciplinary measures if they violate the provisions of this law.

Article 5 (Protection of Sources and Confidentiality) : (1) Journalists shall have the right to protect the identity of their sources and the confidentiality of the information they provide. (2) No person shall be compelled to disclose the identity of a journalist's source or the content of confidential information provided to a journalist. (3) Any person who violates the provisions of this article shall be subject to criminal penalties.

