Government Employees Have No Right to Strike

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This Article provides the reasons behind its submission that government employees have no right to strike. First, the Author distinguishes between the right of employees to form associations, which lends itself to no distinction whatsoever as to the public and private sectors, and the right to strike in accordance with law, which is not extended to government employees under the Civil Service Law. Thereafter, the difference between the governmental and proprietary functions of the government is laid down. The Author cited the cases of Alliance Government v. Minister of Labor and Employment (124 SCRA 1), Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration v. Confederation of Unions in Government Corporations and Offices (30 SCRA 649), and Bacani v. National Coconut Corporation (100 Phil. 468) to support his claim. By way of conclusion, the Senator reminds civil service employees — in view of the "strike fever" in government offices — that in the exercise of their right to form associations and to petition for redress of grievances, they cannot legally exercise the right of labor in private industry to collective bargaining agreement, and much less to resort to the right to strike.