

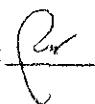
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'11 MAR 23 AIO :29

SENATE

S. NO. 2756

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Franklin M. Drilon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

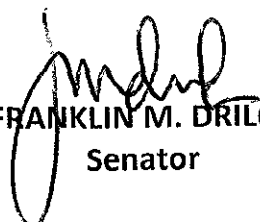
Under Republic Act No. 9333, regular elections for elective officials of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) this year, 2011, has been set to August 11, the second (2nd) Monday of August. The conduct of a separate elections for the ARMM will cost P1.8 Billion this year.

It is opportune time for the new administration to be more prudent and discerning in its current expenditures. The savings to be realized from the postponement of the elections may instead be used for urgent social services and physical infrastructures needed in the region.

To allow for cost-efficiency, this bill proposes for the synchronization of the elections and the term of office of the elective officials of the ARMM with those of the national and local officials. The regular elections for the Regional Governor, Regional Vice Governor and Members of the Regional Legislative Assembly this year shall be postponed and will be moved to the second (2nd) Monday of May 2013, together with the regular elections of other local government officials. The synchronization will allow for government to reduce its expenditures on the frequent conduct of various elections

Moreover, to avoid a vacancy when the term of office of incumbent officials expires, it is proposed that the President shall appoint officers-in-charge in the interim period. The appointed OICs shall be prohibited from running in the next regular elections.

We appeal for the immediate passage of this bill.


FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Senator

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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SYNCHRONIZATION OF THE ELECTIONS AND THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (ARMM) WITH THOSE OF THE NATIONAL AND OTHER LOCAL OFFICIALS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9333, ENTITLED "AN ACT FIXING THE DATE FOR REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Regular Elections. – For purposes of synchronization of elections, which is envisioned by the 1987 Constitution, the regular elections for the Regional Governor, Regional Vice Governor and Members of the Regional Legislative Assembly of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) shall be held on the second (2nd) Monday of May 2013. Succeeding regular elections shall be held on the same date every three (3) years thereafter.

Section 2. Terms of Office of Elective Regional Officials. - The term of office of the Regional Governor, Regional Vice Governor and Members of the Regional Legislative Assembly of the ARMM shall be for a period of three (3) years, which shall begin at noon on the thirtieth (30th) day of September next following the day of the election and shall end at noon of the same date three (3) years thereafter.

Section 3. End of Term of Office of the Incumbent Elective Officials. – Pursuant to the three (3)-year term limit mandated by Section 8 of Article X of the 1987 Constitution, all incumbent elective officials of the ARMM elected in the second (2nd) regular election under Republic Act No. 9333 shall hold office only until noon of the thirtieth (30th) day of September 2011.

Section 4. Appointment of Officers-in-Charge. – For the transitory period which is necessitated by the synchronization of the ARMM elections with the regular elections in 2013, to avoid a vacancy that will be created when the term

of office of incumbent officers of the ARMM expires at noon of the thirtieth (30th) day of September 2011, the President of the Republic of the Philippines shall appoint officers-in-charge who will take over the functions of the incumbent elective officials of the ARMM at the end of their term on noon of the thirtieth (30th) day of September 2011.

Section 5. *Qualifications*. – No person shall be appointed as officer-in-charge unless he or she complies with the qualifications for Regional Governor, Regional Vice Governor or Members of the Regional Legislative Assembly of the ARMM, as provided in Republic Act No. 9054, entitled: “*An Act to Strengthen and Expand the Organic Act for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 6734, Entitled ‘ An Act Providing for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao’, As Amended*”.

Section 6. *Ineligibility of Appointed Officers-in-Charge*. – Appointed officers-in-charge referred to in Section 5 hereof shall be ineligible to run as candidates for elective positions in the next regular elections of the ARMM which shall be held on the second (2nd) Monday of May 2013.

Section 7. *Study and Review of the Organic Act*. – The appointed Members of the Regional Legislative Assembly of the ARMM shall conduct a study and review of Republic Act No. 9054 and submit recommendations to the Congress of the Philippines within six (6) months from their assumption into office.

Section 8. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 9. *Effectively Clause*. – This Act shall take effect immediately upon the completion of its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,