

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 MAY -5 P3:21

SENATE
P.S.R. No. **1308**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III and Sen. Teofisto "TG" Guingona III

**A RESOLUTION
FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORATE THE
QUESTION OF CALLING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO PROPOSE
AMENDMENTS TO OR REVISIONS OF THE 1987 PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION**

WHEREAS, the Constitution is a written instrument by which the fundamental powers of the government are established, limited, and defined, and by which these powers are distributed among the several departments or branches for their safe and useful exercises for the benefit of the people;

WHEREAS, the Constitution as the fundamental law of the land must adapt to present conditions in order for it to truly represent the aspirations of its people;

WHEREAS, *Article XVII, Section 1* of the *1987 Philippine Constitution* states that any amendment to, or revision of, the present charter may be proposed by (1) the Congress, upon a vote of three-fourths of all its Members; or (2) a constitutional convention;

WHEREAS, it is understood that an amendment to the Constitution is an isolated or piecemeal change that does not affect the substantive provisions of the Constitution, while a revision of the Constitution involves an examination of the entire Constitution to determine how and to what extent it should be altered, thus implying substantive change, affecting the fundamental principles of the Constitution as a whole;

WHEREAS, various business organizations and research groups have identified provisions in the *1987 Philippine Constitution*, particularly, economic and political provisions, that need to be revised to address expanding global demands, as well as, economic and political realities;

WHEREAS, the radical revision in the constitutional structure is a task better given to a constitutional convention, whose members shall be chosen by the people, rather than to a constituent assembly, composed of members of Congress who currently wield political power;

WHEREAS, the calling of a constitutional convention to propose amendments to or revisions of the Constitution is the least divisive and the most transparent, exhaustive, and democratic way of achieving much-needed constitutional reforms;

WHEREAS, in *Article XVII, Section 3* of the *1987 Philippine Constitution*, Congress can either directly call a constitutional convention by a vote of two-thirds of all its Members, or submit to the electorate the question of calling such a convention by a majority vote of all its Members;

WHEREAS, to dispel any doubts that the constitutional reforms are being sought to advance political and economic interests of a chosen few, it would be more prudent,

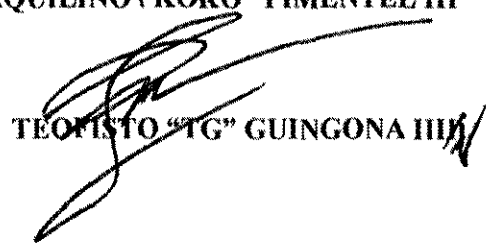
participatory, and democratic to submit to the electorate the question of calling such a constitutional convention; and

WHEREAS, to defray the cost of a separate election for delegates to the constitutional convention, should the electorate favorably decide to call one, the election for delegates shall be conducted simultaneously with the May 9, 2016 National and Local Elections;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORATE THE QUESTION OF CALLING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO OR REVISIONS OF THE 1987 PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION.

Adopted,


AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III


TEOFISTO "TG" GUINGONA III