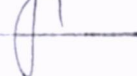


SENATE

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S. B. No. 1174
(In substitution of S.B. No. 1005)

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Prepared by the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation
With Senators Pimentel III and Marcos as authors thereof

**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 185 OF THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE,
AS AMENDED, BY ABOLISHING THE PRINTING OF THE VOTERS
INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION SHEET**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 185 of the Omnibus Election Code, as amended, is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 185. *Official Sample Ballots.* – The Commission shall provide the board
4 of election inspectors with official sample ballots at the rate of thirty (30)
5 ballots per polling place. The official sample ballots shall be printed on colored
6 paper, in all respects like the official ballots but bearing instead the words
7 'Official Sample Ballot' to be shown to the public and used in demonstrating
8 how to fill out and fold the official ballots properly. No name of any actual
9 candidate shall be written on the spaces for voting on the official sample
10 ballots provided by the Commission, nor shall they be used for voting."

11 "At least thirty (30) days before an election, it shall be the duty of the
12 Commission on Elections to [furnish every registered voter through registered
13 mail with return card, personal service with corresponding receipt to be

1 signed by the voter or any person who knows the voter, or any other
2 practicable means with an] **PUBLICIZE THE UNFILLED OFFICIAL**
3 **SAMPLE BALLOT THROUGH BROADCAST, DIGITAL, ELECTRONIC OR**
4 **ONLINE MEDIA, AS WELL AS POSTING THE SAME INFORMATION AT**
5 **CONSPICUOUS PUBLIC AREAS INCLUDING BARANGAY HALLS**
6 **DURING BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS**
7 [unfilled official sample ballot , voter information sheet] and a list of all
8 registered national, provincial and city candidate to be voted in the said
9 election. [The information sheet shall include the voter's name, address, the
10 precinct and the place where he is registered, and simplified instructions as to
11 the casting of votes.] The names of the candidates shall be listed in
12 alphabetical order under their respective party affiliation and a one-line
13 statement not to exceed three (3) words of their occupation or profession:
14 *Provided, however,* That in the [printing] **POSTING** of the names of the
15 candidates for national offices, the alphabetical order shall be democratized
16 so that the listed names shall be made in three (3) columns: the first column
17 shall commence with the letter A and end with the letter Z; the second
18 column shall commence with the letters 'I-Z' and thereafter – 'A-H' and the
19 third column shall commence with the letters 'Q-Z' and thereafter 'A-P'.
20 [These information may be contained in a single sheet or booklet form, and
21 the number and location of the voters' polling place shall be prominently
22 indicated therein.] Persons nominated under the party-list system likewise be
23 included in the abovementioned list."

24 **SEC. 2. Repeal.** – Provisions of laws relating to the duty of the Commission to
25 furnish every registered voter printed copies of an unfilled official sample ballot,
26 voter information sheet, and a list of candidates including but not limited to,
27 *Republic Act No. 7904*, is hereby repealed.

28 **SEC. 3. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
29 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,