

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

5 FEB 16 P4:11

SENATE

S. B. NO. 1919

Introduced by **SENATOR JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Suffrage is one of the more potent means by which the sovereign will is expressed by the individual. As such, it is through the ballot that such will find its more concrete manifestation.

Yet in modern Philippine political history, unscrupulous parties particularly those whose intention is to perpetuate themselves into power, by devious schemes and designs, violate the sanctity of the ballot.

This bill provides for extra safeguards in the custody and distribution of said ballots prior to an electoral exercise.

Premises considered, the early passage of this legislative measure is earnestly sought.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

1 THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF)
2 THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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6 S E N A T E

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8 S.B. No. 1913

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12 Introduced by Senator JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
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16 AN ACT
17 AMENDING SECTION 186 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 881, OTHERWISE
18 KNOWN AS THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS
19 AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES
20

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22 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
23 *Congress assembled:*
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27 **SECTION 1.** Section 186 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 881, otherwise known as
28 the Election Code of the Philippines, as amended, is hereby amended to read as
29 follows:
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31 "SEC. 186. *Distribution of official ballots and election returns.-*

32 [The official ballots and the election returns shall be distributed by
33 the Commission to each city and municipality at the rate of one and
34 one-fifth (1 1/5) ballots for every voter registered in each polling

35 place; and for election returns, at the rate of one set each for every
36 polling place.]

37

38 THE COMMISSION SHALL DISTRIBUTE TO EACH CITY
39 AND MUNICIPALITY THE OFFICIAL BALLOTS AT THE RATE
40 OF ONE (1) BALLOT FOR EVERY REGISTERED VOTER AND AN
41 ADDITIONAL TEN (10) BALLOTS PER PRECINCT, AND
42 ELECTION RETURNS AT THE RATE OF ONE (1) SET FOR
43 EVERY PRECINCT.

44

45 The provincial, city OR municipal treasurer, OR SUCH
46 OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO MAY BE TASKED
47 WITH THE DUTY OF STORING AND DISTRIBUTING ELECTION
48 FORMS AND MATERIALS, SHALL [respectively] keep a record of
49 the quantity and serial numbers of official ballots and election
50 returns [furnished the various] ALLOCATED TO THE
51 RESPECTIVE provinces, cities and municipalities and [polling
52 places] PRECINCTS. [, as the case may be, legible copies of which]
53 COPIES OF SUCH record shall be furnished the COMMISSION
54 AND THE duly authorized [provincial, city, or municipal]
55 representatives of the [ruling party and the dominant opposition
56 party, and the Commission immediately after the distribution is
57 made of such official ballots and election returns.] ACCREDITED

58 POLITICAL PARTIES, ORGANIZATIONS, OR COALITIONS
59 WHICH FIELDED CANDIDATES IN THE ELECTION
60 IMMEDIATELY UPON DISTRIBUTION BUT NOT LATER THAN
61 THE DAY AFTER THE ELECTION. THE COMMISSION SHALL
62 REQUIRE THE ISSUANCE OF OFFICIAL DELIVERY RECEIPTS
63 FOR THE OFFICIAL BALLOTS, ELECTION RETURNS AND
64 OTHER ELECTION FORMS AND PARAPHERNALIA.

65

66 [The Commission shall prescribe the use of official delivery
67 receipts to be signed by the election registrar and the chairman of
68 the board of canvassers upon receipt of the election returns.]

69

70 No official ballots or election returns shall be delivered to the
71 board of election inspectors earlier than the first hour of election
72 day [;]. [*Provided, however, that*] the Commission [, after written
73 notice to the registered political parties and the candidates,] may,
74 for justifiable reasons, AND AFTER NOTICE TO THE
75 CANDIDATES AND THE ACCREDITED POLITICAL PARTIES,
76 ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS FIELDING CANDIDATES
77 IN THE ELECTION, authorize the delivery of [said] official ballots
78 and election returns to the board of [election] inspectors [of any
79 particular polling place] at an earlier date."

80

81

82 *SEC. 2. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees,
83 issuances, orders, rules and regulations or any part thereof inconsistent
84 herewith are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

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86 *SEC. 3. Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15)
87 days following the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in
88 at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

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90 Approved,