CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## H. No. 6470

## BY REPRESENTATIVES QUIMBO, FERRER (J.M.), ROMUALDEZ (F.M.), AND TAMBUNTING, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 266

## AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10366, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO DESIGNATE PRECINCTS ASSIGNED TO ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES EXCLUSIVELY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

SECTION 1. Section 2(j) of Republic Act No. 10366 is hereby
 amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. XXX

"x x x

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"(j) Accessible polling place refers to the venue where the Board of Election Inspectors (BEIs) conducts election-related proceedings and where the voters cast their votes. The accessible polling place shall be located at the ground floor, preferably near the entrance of the building, SHALL BE READILY ACCESSIBLE TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, and [is] SHALL BE free of any physical barriers and provided with necessary INFRASTRUCTURE AND services, including assistive devices[.], RAMPS, RAILINGS, SIDEWALKS, ADEQUATE LIGHTING. VENTILATION AND OTHER FEATURES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS."

5 SEC. 2. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 10366 is hereby 6 amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 9. [Creation of] Precincts for Persons with 7 Disabilities and Senior Citizens. - The Commission is 8 9 hereby authorized to [establish] DESIGNATE precincts [of a nonterritorial nature, exclusively for] 10 IN 11 ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE 12 OF persons with disabilities and senior citizens, [who in their registration records manifest their intent to avail 13 14 of their right to a separate precinct under this section. 15 Pursuant hereto, the Commission shall establish at 16 least one (1) such precinct, assigned to accessible polling 17 places, for every voting center.] SUCH AS IN PUBLIC 18 SCHOOLS, TOWN HALLS OR PLAZAS, CIVIC CENTERS, 19 COMMUNITY CENTERS SIMILARLY OR OTHER 20 DESIGNATED SPECIAL VENUES OR AREAS. AND 21 PREFERABLY THOSE DESIGNED WITH SPECIAL 22 FEATURES, TO ENSURE THEIR SAFETY AND COMFORT. Such precincts shall be provided with assistive devices 23 24 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 2(J) OF THIS ACT as well as the services of experts in assisting 25 26 persons with disabilities."

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3 4 1 SEC. 3. Within sixty (60) days from its effectivity, the 2 Commission shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the 3 implementation of this Act.

4 SEC. 4. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared 5 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not 6 affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

7 SEC. 5. All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive 8 orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations 9 or parts thereof, which are contrary to and inconsistent with any 10 provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified 11 accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general
circulation.

Approved,

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