

RECEN DE

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

22 JUL 12 P6:31

SENATE P.S. Res. No. <u>6</u>

)

)

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ROBINHOOD PADILLA

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND REVISION OF CODES TO REVIEW AND STUDY THE 1987 CONSTITUTION FOR POSSIBLE REVISION ON THE PROVISIONS PARTICULAR TO THE FORM, STRUCTURE, AND POWER OF GOVERNMENT, ECONOMY AND PATRIMONY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Constitution established a government vesting executive, legislative, and judiciary powers in the three branches of the government: the President, Congress, and Supreme Court, respectively;

WHEREAS, except for the insignificant powers devolved to the local government units, our unitary system of government is concentrated to the central government authority distributed to the three branches of the government instead of decentralized powers delegated to the regions which are more familiar with the needs and priorities of their respective localities;

WHEREAS, while sovereign Filipino people promulgated the Constitution in order to build a just and humane society, it is unfortunate that after 35 years from its effectivity, we have yet to attain a "just and humane society";

WHEREAS, the country's economic growth has been largely centralized in the National Capital Region and its neighboring regions, Central Luzon and CALABARZON, which provide about 57% of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) while the share of the other 14 regions accounted to only 43% of the GDP from 2019 to 2021;

WHEREAS, our country, as one of the most linguistically and culturally diverse nations in the world, compromising 110 ethnic languages and 142 indigenous peoples in more than 7,000 islands, requires a federalized government that will undertake

policy-making and legislative functions reflective of the concerns of our various geographical regions;

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution bore witness to the country's political unrest that threatened the basic foundation of our democracy amid the series of *coup d'état*, presidential impeachments, and jailing of two former Presidents, EDSA People Power II and EDSA Tres, among other political instabilities;

WHEREAS, a federal government will decentralize the concentration of immense government powers from a unitary system and will provide a comprehensive and long-term response to our political and economic inequality, inequitable access to the delivery of goods and services, and undue distribution of government resources;

WHEREAS, under the parliamentary system, there will be an institutionalized and peaceful political approach to removing a head of government in lieu of the unconstitutional and highly divisive *coup d'état* or mob rule that our country had experienced;

WHEREAS, in the parliamentary system, the term of office of the head of government is derived from the will and confidence of the members of the Parliament and is not based on a fixed six-year term of a President thereby providing us political stability that would prevent impeachment, *coup d'état*, and mob rule;

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution provides for economic provisions that impede our economic growth because of its restrictions on foreign equity in the exploration, development, and utilization of natural resources, public utilities, buildoperate-transfer projects, operation of deep-sea commercial vessels, prohibition of foreigners from owning land, equity in mass media, and the practice of professions;

WHEREAS, these constitutional prohibitions put our country at a disadvantage in competing with neighboring countries in terms of the growing global marketplace of opportunities marketplace of opportunities, unequal access to free trade agreements, and lack of access to foreign capital, hence, there is a compelling need to reform the economic provisions of the 1987 Constitution by removing restrictive provisions that disrupt our sustained economic progress;

2

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3, Article XVII of the Constitution, the Congress has a constitutional power to propose revision of the Constitution. *Now, therefore, be it resolved,*

AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED to direct the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes the Committee to review and study the 1987 Constitution for possible revision on the provisions particular to the form, structure, and power of government, economy and patrimony, and for other purposes.

Adopted,

· · · ·

245 **ROBINHOOD PADILLA** Senator