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SENATE
S. No. 1470

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to prohibit the appointment or designation of resigned elective government officials to posts in the government including government-owned or controlled corporations or their subsidiaries until after the lapse of one year from such resignation of the official concerned.

Section 1, Article XI of our Constitution states that; "Public office is a public trust. Public officers and employees must at all times be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency, act with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives."

From the above-mentioned provision, it is clear that persons in the government service especially elective officials have a commitment to the public. It is assumed that people who run for public office have the common desire to serve the populace of the country. It is therefore their sworn duty, if they are elected into office, to serve the mandate of the people by performing their duty as stated in the Constitution and put the welfare of the public first and foremost in their list of priorities.

In the past, there have been situations when there are tempting and juicy opportunities to assume another office or position caused by vacancies or resignations of certain officials. In such cases, some government officials aspiring to fill in such vacancies resign from their current posts in order for them to be appointed to such office or position. This in effect would create a void in the position left by said official. In the case of elective officials, such act would be tantamount to setting aside the mandate of the people who chose and elected him or her to be their representative and leader.

Proper measures need to be done in order to dissuade such practice and for such reason, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

This is a Senate counterpart bill to one filed in the House of Representatives by Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon.¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

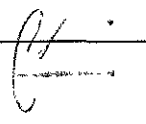
¹ This bill was originally filed during 14th Congress, 1st Regular Session.

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1 AN ACT
2 PROHIBITING THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTIVE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
3 WITHIN ONE YEAR FROM RESIGNATION

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

4 SECTION 1. No elective government official who has resigned from his position shall,
5 within one (1) year after such resignation, be appointed or designated to any office in the
6 Government or any government-owned or controlled corporations or in any of their subsidiaries.

7 SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
8 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
9 with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

10 SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
11 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,