

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

15 MAR 17 P2:37

SENATE  
S. No. 2707

RECEIVED BY: *J*

---

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

---

AN ACT  
AMENDING BOOK 1, TITLE 1, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.  
7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991" TO  
PROHIBIT THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN FROM NAMING LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT UNITS, PUBLIC PLACES, STREETS AND STRUCTURES AFTER  
RELATIVES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 11, Section 1 provides:

Section 1. 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.

Article 2, Section 26 further provides:

Section 26. The State shall guarantee equal access to opportunities for public service, and prohibit political dynasties as may be defined by law.

This bill seeks to prohibit the practice of naming public works after the relatives of government officials and employees.

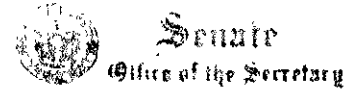
The Local Government Code of 1991 provides the Sangguniang Panlalawigan with the power to change the names of local government units, public places, streets and public structures within its territorial jurisdiction with the limitation that such places and structures may not be named after any living person. It has been the practice of some government officials, however, to name public works after their deceased parents or grandparents, some of whom may share their name.

This practice is deplorably self-serving. Not only does it underhandedly increase their own prestige within their locality, it also has the insidious effect of perpetuating

their political dynastic line by forcing street goers to repeatedly utter their family name. This amounts to a circumvention of the law against premature campaigning, and at the expense of the taxpayers, no less.

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
JP

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



15 MAR 17 P2:37

SENATE  
S. No. 2707

RECEIVED BY: *Ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

1 AN ACT  
2 AMENDING BOOK 1, TITLE 1, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.  
3 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991" TO  
4 PROHIBIT THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN FROM NAMING LOCAL  
5 GOVERNMENT UNITS, PUBLIC PLACES, STREETS AND STRUCTURES AFTER  
6 RELATIVES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

7 SECTION 1. Book 1, Title 1, Chapter 2, Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7160  
8 otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991" is hereby amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 Section 13. Naming of Local Government Units and Public Places,  
11 Streets and Structures. –

12 (d) None of the foregoing local government units,  
13 institutions, places, or buildings shall be named after a living  
14 person, **NOR ANY RELATIVE BY AFFINITY OR**  
15 **CONSANGUINITY WITHIN THE FOURTH CIVIL**  
16 **DEGREE, WHETHER LIVING OR DEAD, OF ANY**  
17 **GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR EMPLOYEE**, nor may a  
18 change of name be made unless for a justifiable reason and, in  
19 any case, not oftener than once every ten (10) years. The  
20 name of a local government unit or a public place, street or

1 structure with historical, cultural, or ethnic significance shall  
2 not be changed, unless by a unanimous vote of the  
3 sanggunian concerned and in consultation with the PHC.

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

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

Approved,

/aml 11March2015