

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
Third Regular Session }



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SENATE
S.B. No. 2082

RECEIVED

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III

**AN ACT
REORGANIZING THE COMELEC OFFICES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) is the constitutional body tasked to protect and uphold the people's democratic right to choose the country's leaders. It consists of over 5,000 employees nationwide, serving as its main support in carrying out its vast mandate.

For many years, the COMELEC Employees' Union have continuously asserted the employees' right to substantial and just salary increases. This is due to the notable disparity between their salary grade and that of those who work in other government agencies, which possess similar qualifications and are in equivalent positions. It is about time that Congress respond to their call for adequate adjustments in their remuneration.

Equal pay for equal work in government service is the ultimate goal of the proposed legislation. It can only be realized through reclassification and upgrading of the current plantilla positions, particularly in the COMELEC Main and Field Offices. Furthermore, it is posited that increase in their salary will be an effective deterrent to graft and corrupt practices.

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

VICENTE C. SOTTO III

1 Manila District, or such number of administrative district as may be
2 determined by the Commission, which shall be headed and
3 administratively supervised by a District Election Director with the
4 rank of Director II, Computer Maintenance Technologist/Specialist
5 (CMT/CMS) with SG-24, Administrative Assistant V, Administrative
6 Aide, Driver and any such other subordinate officers or employees
7 necessary in the exigency of service for the said office.

8 (4) City/Municipal Office, headed by City/Municipal Election Specialist
9 with the rank of Director I regardless of their place of assignment.

10 (5) There shall be a minimum of two Assistant Election Specialists (AES)
11 with SG-21 in every city or municipality provided that for every
12 additional 20,000 voters from 50,000 voters additional AES shall be
13 automatically appointed.

14 The Commission may delegate its powers and functions or order the
15 implementation or enforcement of its orders, rulings, or decisions,
16 through the heads of its field offices.

17 **SECTION 4. *Reclassification and Upgrading of Plantilla Positions in***
18 ***the COMELEC Main and Field Offices.*** – All the remaining rank and file
19 plantilla positions in the COMELEC main and field offices shall be
20 reclassified and upgraded accordingly by the Commission on Elections.

21 **SECTION 5. *Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from the
22 approval of this Act, the Department of Budget and the Commission on
23 Elections shall adopt and issue the rules and regulations for the effective
24 implementation of this Act.

25 **SECTION 6. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial
26 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current fiscal year's
27 appropriations under the budget of the COMELEC. Thereafter, such sums
28 as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be
29 included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

30 **SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or section of this Act is
31 declared unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the other parts
32 or sections of this Act.

33 **SECTION. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** — All laws, executive orders, presidential
34 decrees, presidential proclamations, letters of implementation, rules and
35 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
36 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

37 **SECTION. 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
38 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,