

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 JUL -2 10:28

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 344

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE


Election offenses have long been a reality in Philippine politics. In fact, our people have witnessed massive incidents of election violations in the past which has eroded our people's confidence in the sanctity of our election process. This bill seeks to give more teeth to our existing law by increasing the penalties provided for under Section 48 of Republic Act 8189. This should help deter deceitful individuals from committing election fraud.

In order to address the upsurge of election related offenses, as well as regain our people's faith in the election process, approval of this bill is strongly recommended.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 58 OF REPUBLIC ACT 8189 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
"THE VOTERS REGISTRATION ACT OF 1996" BY INCREASING THE
PENALTY PROVIDED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Article 46 of Republic Act 8189 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 46. *Penalties.* Any person found guilty of any election offense under this Act shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than SIX (6) [one (1)] yearS but not more than TWELVE (12) [six (6)] years and shall not be subject to probation. In addition, the guilty party shall be sentenced to suffer disqualification to hold public office and deprivation of the right of suffrage. If he is a foreigner, he shall be deported after the prison term has been served. Any political party found guilty shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than FIVE (5) [one (1)] hundred thousand pesos (P 500,000.00) [(P100,000.00)] but not more than ONE MILLION [Five Hundred Thousand] pesos (P1,000,000.00) [(P500,000.00)]."

SEC 2. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules and regulations, executive or administrative orders and other presidential issuance inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed amended, or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,