NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

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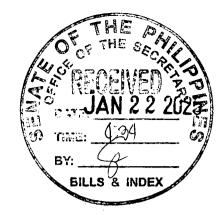
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## **SENATE**

S.B. No. <u>2942</u>

(In Substitution of S.B. No. 2862, taking into consideration H.B. No.11144)

Prepared and submitted by the Committee on Local Government with Senators Escudero and Ejercito as authors thereof.

## **AN ACT**

RESETTING THE FIRST REGULAR ELECTIONS IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE XVI, SECTION 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11054, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ORGANIC LAW FOR THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO", AS AMENDED

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

Section 1. Article XVI, Section 13 of Republic Act No. 11054, otherwise known as the "Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao", as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 13. First Regular Election. – The first regular election for the Bangsamoro Government under this Organic Law shall be held [and synchronized with the 2025 national elections] ON AUGUST 11, 2025.

THE NEXT ELECTION SHALL BE HELD AND SYNCHRONIZED WITH THE 2028 NATIONAL ELECTIONS, AND EVERY THREE (3) YEARS THEREAFTER. The Commission on Elections, through the Bangsamoro Electoral Office, shall promulgate rules and regulations for

the conduct of the elections, enforce and administer them pursuant to

national law, this Organic Law and the Bangsamoro Electoral Code."

Sec. 2. During the extension of the Transition Period, the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) shall continue as the interim government in the Bangsamoro

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). The interim members of the BTA shall serve until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

- Sec. 3. For the purpose of this Act, aspirants who filed their certificates of candidacy for the parliamentary districts and manifestations of intent to participate by the duly accredited regional political parties with corresponding certificates of nomination and acceptance of nominees from November 4 to 9, 2024 shall be deemed automatically considered candidates and nominees to be voted for in the election of August 11, 2025, without need to open and accept new candidacies. Substitution of candidates and nominees shall not be allowed, except in cases of death, disqualification, or incapacity, pursuant to the guidelines promulgated by the Commission on Elections.
- Sec. 4. If any of the provisions of this Act is held unconstitutional, provisions not affected shall remain valid and binding.
- Sec. 5. All laws, decrees, and all other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.
- Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,