

Certified by the President for its  
immediate enactment  
on January 28, 2025

CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
*Third Regular Session*

}

## SENATE

S. No. 2942

(In substitution of Senate Bill No. 2862,  
taking into consideration House Bill No. 11144)

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PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY THE COMMITTEES ON LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT WITH SENATORS ESCUDERO, EJERCITO, AND  
VILLANUEVA AS AUTHORS THEREOF

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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:*

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

1                   “SEC. 13. *First Regular Election.* – The  
2                   first regular election for the Bangsamoro  
3                   Government under this Organic Law shall be  
4                   held [~~and synchronized with the 2025 national~~  
5                   ~~elections~~] ON OCTOBER 13, 2025. THE NEXT  
6                   ELECTION SHALL BE HELD AND  
7                   SYNCHRONIZED WITH THE 2028  
8                   NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND EVERY  
9                   THREE (3) YEARS THEREAFTER. The  
10                  Commission on Elections, through the  
11                  Bangsamoro Electoral Office, shall promulgate  
12                  rules and regulations for the conduct of the  
13                  elections, enforce and administer them  
14                  pursuant to national laws, this Organic Law  
15                  and the Bangsamoro Electoral Code.

16                  THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE  
17                  OFFICIALS FIRST ELECTED UNDER THIS  
18                  ACT SHALL COMMENCE AT NOON OF THE

1           30<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER NEXT FOLLOWING  
2           THEIR ELECTION.”

3           SEC. 2. During the extension of the transition period,  
4 the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) shall continue  
5 as the interim government in the Bangsamoro Autonomous  
6 Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). The interim  
7 members of the BTA shall serve until their successors shall  
8 have been elected and qualified unless such interim  
9 members are replaced by the President or their tenure is  
10 shortened by their election to a different position.

11          SEC. 3. For the purpose of this Act, aspirants who  
12 filed their Certificates of Candidacy for the parliamentary  
13 districts; and nominees for party representatives listed in  
14 the Certificates of Nomination and Acceptance  
15 incorporated in Manifestations of Intent to Participate filed  
16 by duly accredited political parties from November 4 to 9,  
17 2024, shall be automatically considered as candidates and  
18 nominees in the October 2025 election. New filings for  
19 Certificates of Candidacy or for Manifestations of Intent to

1 Participate with a list of nominees shall not be entertained:  
2 *Provided*, That the Commission on Elections (COMELEC)  
3 shall have the authority to issue appropriate guidelines on  
4 the filing of candidacies, in case the seats originally  
5 allocated to the province of Sulu are re-apportioned by the  
6 Bangsamoro parliament.

7 Substitution of candidates and nominees shall not be  
8 allowed, except in cases of death or disqualification,  
9 pursuant to the guidelines promulgated by the COMELEC.

10 SEC. 4. The Bangsamoro Parliamentary election on  
11 October 2025 shall not be treated as a special election and  
12 shall be considered a continuation of the 2025 national and  
13 local elections (NLE). Any amount obligated prior to the  
14 resetting of the Bangsamoro election shall remain valid.

15 The amount necessary for the implementation of this  
16 Act shall be charged against the current year's  
17 appropriations of the COMELEC or any available  
18 appropriations as may be identified by the Department of  
19 Budget and Management (DBM) subject to existing

1 budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules and regulations.  
2 Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its  
3 continued implementation shall be included in the annual  
4 General Appropriations Act, subject to the usual budget  
5 preparation process.

6 SEC. 5. If any of the provisions of this Act is held  
7 unconstitutional, provisions not affected shall remain valid  
8 and binding.

9 SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, issuances, or parts thereof,  
10 which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed,  
11 amended, or modified accordingly.

12 SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect immediately upon  
13 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of  
14 general circulation.

Approved,