


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

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RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

S. B. No. 503

Introduced by **Senator JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Suffrage is the most powerful means by which the sovereign will is expressed by the people. It is through the ballot that such will finds its more concrete manifestation.

Yet in modern Philippine political history, unscrupulous parties particularly those whose intention is to perpetuate themselves in power, by devious schemes and designs, violate the sanctity of the ballot.

This bill provides for extra safeguards in the custody and distribution of said ballots prior to an electoral exercise.

Premises considered, the early passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

THE ISSUANCE OF OFFICIAL DELIVERY RECEIPTS FOR THE OFFICIAL BALLOTS, ELECTION RETURNS AND OTHER ELECTION FORMS AND PARAPHERNALIA.

[The Commission shall prescribe the use of official delivery receipts to be signed by the election registrar and the chairman of the board of canvassers upon receipt of the election returns.]

No official ballots or election returns shall be delivered to the board of election inspectors earlier than the first hour of election day [;]. [Provided, however, that] the Commission [, after written notice to the registered political parties and the candidates,] may, for justifiable reasons, AND AFTER NOTICE TO THE CANDIDATES AND THE ACCREDITED POLITICAL PARTIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS FIELDING CANDIDATES IN THE ELECTION, authorize the delivery of [said] official ballots and election returns to the board of [election] inspectors [of any particular polling place] at an earlier date."

SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, issuances, orders, rules and regulations or any part thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,