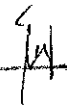


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 JUL -2 P5:03

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 505

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

History has proven that national and local elections in our country are always characterized by widespread and systematic fraud at all levels with incidents of violence and terrorism in certain areas. Although present election laws provide for penalties for the commission of election-related offenses, these, however, are not enough to deter violators from committing the same.

This proposed legislative measure seeks to increase the range of penalties for the commission of certain election-related offenses in order to provide a better deterrent with the end in view of ensuring clean, orderly, honest and credible elections for the country's future generation.


Immediate passage of this bill is thus earnestly recommended.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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AN ACT
AMENDING ARTICLE 264 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 881, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS
AMENDED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 264 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 881, otherwise known as the Omnibus Election Code, as amended, is hereby to read as follows:

“SEC. 264. Penalties. – Any person found guilty of any election offense under this Code shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than **SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY** [one year] but not more than **TWELVE (12) YEARS** [six years] and shall not be subject to probation. In addition, the guilty party shall be sentenced to suffer **PERMANENT** disqualification to hold public office and deprivation of the right of suffrage. If he is a foreigner, he shall be sentenced deportation which shall be enforced after the prison term has been served. Any political part, **COALITION PARTY, PARTY-LIST, OR GROUP ORGANIZED FOR POLITICAL PURPOSE** found guilty shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than **FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (Php 500, 000.00)** [ten thousand] pesos, which shall be imposed upon such after criminal action has been instituted in which their corresponding officials have been found guilty.

In case of prisoner or prisoners illegally release from any penitentiary or jail during the prohibited period as provided in Section 261, paragraph (n) of this Code, the director of prisons, provincial warden, keeper of the jail or prison, or persons who are required by law to keep said prisoner in their custody shall, if convicted by a competent court, be sentenced to suffer to penalty of **RECLUSION PERPETUA** [*prison mayor* in its maximum period] if the prisoner or prisoners so illegally released commit any act of intimidation, terrorism or interference in the election.

SEC. 2. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, issuances, orders, rules and regulations or any part thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,