


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

6 MAR -8 P1:28

SENATE
S.B. NO. 2223

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Biazon


EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 9006 removed the prohibition on political advertisements in mass media. The main objective for lifting the political ad ban is to provide for a level playing field among all candidates for public office. To achieve this objective, RA 9006 prescribed a limit on the airtime (for television and radio advertisements) that may be used by any candidate or political party.

On 06 January 2004, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) *En Banc* issued Resolution No. 6520 to implement RA 9006. Section 13, par. 1 (a) practically increased the prescribed (air)time limits when it provided that the 180 minutes (for television) and 120 minutes (for radio) was the maximum for all television or radio station, instead of being the aggregate limit regardless of the number of radio or television station.

Because of said COMELEC resolution, we witnessed a deluge of political advertisements on radio and television during the 2004 national and local elections. Candidates computed their airtime limits on a per station basis. Thus, the airtime limits for political advertisements were practically rendered useless in its objective to level the playing field among the candidates for public office. Candidates with an enormous political warchest were able to procure radio and television airtimes way beyond what is prescribed in RA 9006.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate enactment of this bill earnestly requested.


RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Senator

**PARTY OR COALITION SHALL DISTRIBUTE
SAID AGGREGATE TIME AMONG ITS
CANDIDATES.**

For this purpose the COMELEC, shall require any broadcast station or entity to submit to the COMELEC a copy of its broadcast logs and certificates of performance for the review and verification of the frequency, date, time and duration of advertisements broadcast for any candidate or political party.”

SECTION 2. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, Executive Orders, Letters of Instruction, Letters of Implementation, Rules and Regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, superseded or amended accordingly.

SECTION 3. Effectivity. This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes first.

Approved.