


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

6 MAR 21 P2:23

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 473

Introduced by
Senators Drilon, Flavio, Pangilinan, Pimentel, Roxas, Enrile, Cayetano
Ejercito Estrada (L.), Biazon, Revilla, Ejercito Estrada (J.), Gordon, Arroyo,
Angara, Madrigal, Lim, Defensor Santiago, Lapid, Lacson, Osmeña, Villar, Recto

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE
THAT ANY PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO, OR REVISION OF, THE
CONSTITUTION REQUIRES THE APPROVAL OF THE SENATE AND
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, VOTING SEPARATELY**

WHEREAS, the Constitution provides that any amendment to, or revision of, the Constitution may be proposed by Congress, upon a vote of three-fourths of all its members;

WHEREAS, the Constitution clearly states that the Congress of the Philippines shall "consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives";

WHEREAS, under a bicameral system of legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives always vote separately on all bills and resolutions;

WHEREAS, if measures such as those which propose the change in names of streets require that the Senate and the House of Representatives vote separately, with more reason that the two houses of Congress should vote separately in the case of the supreme exercise of amending or revising the Constitution;

WHEREAS, when the Constitution requires the "concurrence of a majority of all members of the Congress" in the grant of amnesty or tax exemption, Congress had always exercised said power by voting separately;

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 26, convening Congress as a Constituent Assembly to propose amendments to, or revision of, the 1987 Constitution, and transmitted the same to the Senate for adoption;

WHEREAS, various non-governmental, people's and religious organizations, including the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), stand to believe that changing the Constitution, which may involve major shifts in the form of government, requires widespread participation, total transparency, and relative serenity that allows for national discussion and debate;

WHEREAS, given the importance of the Constitution, which is the fundamental law of the land, we should devote the necessary time and resources to revisit the same to be able to recommend appropriate amendments, which are responsive to the needs of the Filipino people; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

