		SENATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE RE OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session	PUBLIC)))	7 JUL 18 Patri
S. B. 1	SENATE No. 1300	HICHIVED BY:
Introduced by Sena	or Miriam Defenso	r Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The purpose of Republic Act No. 7941, otherwise known as the Party List System Act, is to "enable Filipino citizens belonging to marginalized and underrepresented sectors, organizations and parties" who lack well-defined political constituencies, "but who could contribute to the formulation and enactment of appropriate legislation that will benefit the nation as a whole" by becoming members of the House of Representatives. Women comprising approximately half of the population in this country are among those who are marginalized and underrepresented.

As the State recognizes the role of women in nation building, it is therefore necessary that women be given equal rights, opportunities and chances, for political representation, articulation and action.

Presently, the State of women's political representation needs to be advanced. This can be achieved by instituting structures and mechanisms whereby their political representation and involvement is assured. In this light, the bill seeks to institute a scheme in the Party List System that will increase the chances for political representation of women. It provides that at least forty percent (40%) of the five nominees per registered organization are women; and that at least one of the first three positions be occupied by a woman nominee.^{*}

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIACO

^{*} This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session	REPUBLIC)))	7 JUL 18 P4:23
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AN ACT	
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT SEVENTY NINE FORTY ON	ſΕ
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PARTY LIST SYSTEM AC	T

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4 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress 5 assembled:

6 SECTION 1. Section 8 of Republic Act Seventy Nine Forty One is hereby amended to
7 read as follows:

"Sec. 8. Nomination of Party List Representatives. - Each registered party 8 organization or coalition shall submit to the COMELEC not later than forty five 9 10 (45) days before the election a list of names, not less than five (5), at least 11 FORTY PERCENT (40%) of which must be women, from which party 12 representatives shall be chosen in case it obtains the required number of votes: 13 PROVIDED, THAT EACH REGISTERED PARTY, ORGANIZATION, OR 14 COALITION, BEFORE SUBMITTING THE LIST TO THE COMELEC, NOMINATED AMONG THEMSELVES, REPRESENTATIVES OF AN EVEN 15 16 NUMBER, FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF WHICH ARE WOMEN WHO, ASIDE 17 FROM HAVING THE QUALIFICATIONS LISTED UNDER SECTION 9 OF 18 THIS ACT, ARE ALSO RECOGNIZED AS CHAMPIONS OF WOMEN'S 19 CAUSES: PROVIDED, FURTHER. THAT THE FINAL FIVE REPRESENTATIVES WILL CONSIST OF TWO MEN AND TWO WOMEN 20 21 CHOSEN BY THE REGISTERED PARTY **ORGANIZATION** OR COALITION. WITH THE LAST REPRESENTATIVE CHOSEN 22 BY 23 DRAWING LOTS AMONG THE REMAINING NOMINEES: PROVIDED, 24 FINALLY, THAT THE RANKING OF THE **FINAL** FIVE

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REPRESENTATIVES, BE DONE BY DRAWING LOTS, WITH AT LEAST
 ONE OF THE FIRST THREE POSITIONS TO BE OCCUPIED BY A WOMAN
 NOMINEE.

A person may be nominated in one (1) list only. Only persons who have 4 given their consent in writing may be named in the list. The list shall not include 5 any candidate for any elective position who has lost his/her bid for an elective 6 office in the immediately preceding election. No change of names or alteration of 7 the order of the committees shall be allowed after the same shall have been 8 submitted to the COMELEC except in cases where the nominee dies or withdraws 9 in writing his/her nomination or becomes incapacitated in which case the name of 10 11 the substitute nominee shall be placed in the list. Incumbent sectoral representatives in the House of Representative who are nominated in the party-list 12 system shall not be considered resigned." 13

14 SECTION 2. Section 11 of the same law is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 11. Number of Party-List Representatives. – The party-list
representative shall constitute twenty percentum (20%) of the total number of the
members of the House of Representative including those under the party-list.

For the purposes of the May 1998 election, the first five (5) major political 18 19 parties on the basis of party representation in the House of Representatives at the 20 start of the Tenth Congress of the Philippines AND NEW POLITICAL PARTIES FORMED BY DISQUALIFIED 21 THE POLITICAL PARTIES AS 22 DETERMINED BY THEIR MEMBERSHIP OR AFFILIATION shall not be entitled to participate in the party-list system. 23

In determining the allocation of seats for the second vote, the following procedures shall be observed:

a) the parties, organizations, and coalitions shall be ranked from the highest
to the lowest based on the number of votes they garnered during the
elections.

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1	b) the parties, organizations, and coalitions receiving at least two percent		
2	(2%) of the total votes cast for the party list system shall be entitled to one		
3	seat each: Provided, That those garnering more than two percent (2%) of		
4	the votes shall be entitled to additional seats in proportion to their total		
5	number of votes: [Provided further, That half of those appointed under the		
6	party-list must be women:] Provided, finally, That each party,		
7	organization, or coalition shall be entitled to not more than three (3)		
8	seats."		
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9	9 SECTION 3. Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive		
10	order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent		
11	with, the provision of this Act is hereby repeated, modified, or amended accordingly.		
12	SECTION 4. Separability Clause If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or		
13	unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall		
14	remain valid and subsisting.		

SECTION 5. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take fifteen (15) days after its
 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

17 Approved,