# REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

## **EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3731



Introduced by Representative TYRONE D AGABAS

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill which seeks to amend Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7166, entitled, "An Act Increasing the Authorized Campaign Expenditures of Candidates and Political Parties and Defining an Independent Candidate for this Purpose, Amending Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7166, Entitled, 'An Act Providing for Synchronized National and Local Elections and for Electoral Reforms, Authorizing Appropriations Therefore, and For Other Purposes" has already been approved by the House of Representatives on its 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading in the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress. To date, it has not yet been enacted into law. Due to its significance as integral part of electoral reforms, there is a need to refile this bill to address the financial expenditures of every candidate in every national and local elections.

The authorized expenditure provided under Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7166 allows a candidate for a President and Vice-President to only spend ten pesos (P10.00) per registered voter. For other positions, except for an independent candidate who is allowed to spend five pesos (P5.00) for every registered voter, all candidates are allowed to spend three pesos (P3.00) for every registered voter. For political parties, they are allowed to spend five pesos (P5.00) for every voter currently registered in the constituency or constituencies where they have official candidates.

The authorized amounts under Republic Act 7166 need to be amended as they are unrealistic, restrictive, insufficient, and impractical. Given the past electoral exercises, the expenditure limitations allowed under Republic Act 7166 can no longer accurately reflect the actual expenditures spent by candidates.

Hence, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

## Republic of the Philippines

#### HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES

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## HOUSE BILL NO. 3731

Introduced by Representative TYRONE D. AGABAS

AN ACT INCREASING THE AUTHORIZED CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES OF CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL PARTIES AND DEFINING AN INDPENDENT CANDIDATE FOR THIS PURPOSE, AMENDING SECTION 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7166, ENTITLED, "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SYNCHRONIZED NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS AND FOR ELECTORAL REFORMS, AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7166 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 13. Authorized Expenses of Candidates and Political Parties. – The aggregate amount that a candidate or registered political party may spend for election campaign shall be as follows:

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"(a) For candidates – [Ten] FIFTY pesos [(P10.00)] (P50.00) for President [and]; FORTY PESOS (P40.00) For Vice-President; THIRTY PESOS (P30.00) FOR SENATORS, DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN, GOVERNOR, VICE-GOVERNOR, BOARD MEMBERS, MAYOR, VICE-MAYOR AND COUNCILORS; AND TEN PESOS (P10.00) FOR PARTY-LIST

PARTIES [and for other candidates, Three pesos (P3.00) for every voter 11 currently registered in the constituency where [he] THE CANDIDATE filed 12 [his] THE certificate of candidacy: 13 Provided, That, AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE OR a candidate 14 without any political party and without support from any political party 15 may be allowed to spend [Five] FORTY pesos [(P5.00)] (P40.00) for every 16 such voter; and 17 "(b) For political parties - [FIVE] THIRTY pesos [(P5.00)] (P30.00) for 18 every voter currently registered in the constituency or constituencies 19 where it has official candidates. 20 "FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, AN INDEPENDENT 21 CANDIDATE IS FURTHER DEFINED AS ONE WHO: 22 23 "(A) IS NOT NOMINATED BY A DULY REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTY OR 24 COALITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES OR ITS DULY AUTHORIZED 25 REPRESENTATIVE; 26 27 "(B) IS ISSUED A CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION AND **ACCEPTANCE** 28 (CONA) THAT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED BY A POLITICAL PARTY OR 29 COALITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES NOT DULY REGISTERED WITH THE 30 COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (COMELEC); 31 32 "(C) REPUDIATES A NOMINATION ISSUED BY A DULY REGISTERED 33 POLITICAL PARTY OR COALITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES AT ANY TIME 34 BEFORE THE DATE OF ELECTIONS; 35 36 "(D) ACCEPTS A NOMINATION FROM MORE THAN ONE DULY 37 REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTY FOR THE SAME CONSTITUENCY, 38

EXCEPT IN CASES OF COALITION OF SAID POLITICAL PARTIES;

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41	"(E) FILES A CONA AFTER THE DEADLINE FOR THE FILING OF
42	CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY (COC);
43	"(F) FILES A COC WITHOUT A CONA;
44	"(G) IS ISSUED A CONA THAT IS SUBSEQUENTLY
45	CANCELLED, REVOKED, WITHDRAWN OR SUBSTITUTED BY THE
46	NOMINATING PARTY AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE DATE OF THE
47	ELECTIONS; OR
48	"(H) IS NOMINATED BY A DULY REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTY OR
49	COALITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES BUT WHICH NOMINATION IS
50	DENIED DUE COURSE BY THE COMELEC.
51	"Any provision of the law to the contrary notwithstanding, any
52	contribution in cash or in kind to any candidate or political party or
53	coalition of parties for campaign purposes, duly reported to the
54	Commission, shall not be subject to the payment of any gift tax."
55	SEC. 2. The COMELEC shall, within ninety (90) days after the
56	affectivity of this Act, promulgate such rules and regulations necessary to
57	implement this Act.
58	SEC. 3. If any provision or part hereof is declared unconstitutional,
59	the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected shall remain in full
60	force and effect.
61	SEC. 4. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and
62	regulations or parts inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby
63	repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
64	SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect immediately after Its publication
65	in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
66	Approved,

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