

Hence, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

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 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 THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

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

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

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

11 PARTIES [and for other candidates, Three pesos (P3.00) for every voter
12 currently registered in the constituency where [he] **THE CANDIDATE** filed
13 [his] THE certificate of candidacy:

14 *Provided, That, AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE OR a candidate*
15 *without any political party and without support from any political party*
16 *may be allowed to spend [Five] FORTY pesos [(P5.00)] (P40.00) for every*
17 *such voter; and*

18 “(b) For political parties – [FIVE] THIRTY pesos [(P5.00)] (P30.00) for
19 every voter currently registered in the constituency or constituencies
20 where it has official candidates.

21 ”FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, AN INDEPENDENT
22 CANDIDATE IS FURTHER DEFINED AS ONE WHO:

23
24 “(A) IS NOT NOMINATED BY A DULY REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTY OR
25 COALITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES OR ITS DULY AUTHORIZED
26 REPRESENTATIVE;

27
28 “(B) IS ISSUED A CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION AND ACCEPTANCE
29 (CONA) THAT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED BY A POLITICAL PARTY OR
30 COALITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES NOT DULY REGISTERED WITH THE
31 COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (COMELEC);

32
33 “(C) REPUDIATES A NOMINATION ISSUED BY A DULY REGISTERED
34 POLITICAL PARTY OR COALITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES AT ANY TIME
35 BEFORE THE DATE OF ELECTIONS;

36
37 “(D) ACCEPTS A NOMINATION FROM MORE THAN ONE DULY
38 REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTY FOR THE SAME CONSTITUENCY,
39 EXCEPT IN CASES OF COALITION OF SAID POLITICAL PARTIES;

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,