

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3249**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
RECEIVED	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

AN ACT
INCREASING THE AUTHORIZED EXPENSES OF CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL
PARTIES DURING CAMPAIGN PERIOD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7166, AS AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Under the existing election laws, the allowable amount that may be spent by a candidate for the position of President and Vice President is Ten pesos (Php10.00), while political parties are allowed to spend the amount of Five (Php 5.00) for every voter currently registered in the constituency. It may be highlighted that the law providing for the foregoing amounts, Republic Act No. 7166 otherwise known as "An Act Providing For Synchronized National And Local Elections And For Electoral Reforms, Authorizing Appropriations Therefor, And For Other Purposes" was enacted in 1991, or twenty five (25) years ago. Following the length of time, prices of commodities in the past twenty five years is no longer prevailing at this time. The prices of goods have increased resulting to the weakening of the value of the Philippine peso. With the conduct of elections every three (3) years for local positions and six (6) years for national and general elections, the amount provided by the law in 1991 no longer hold true and cannot be made possible to cover election expenditure by a candidate resulting in the untruthful declaration of election expenses.

It is at this point that this proposal is being advanced. It is aimed at providing for a realistic amount that a candidate and his political party may spend during election and be updated to the current market prices of goods and commodities. The amendments will give the candidates ample opportunity to reach out to their constituents and at the same be truthful at their expenses.

Foregoing considered, the approval of this proposal is earnestly sought.



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PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7166, AS AMENDED

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 Agreement amount that a candidate or registered political party may spend for election campaign shall be as follows:

- (a) For all candidates.- **THIRTY PESOS (P30.00)** [Ten pesos (P10.000)] for President and Vice President; and for other candidates **TWENTY** [Three] Pesos [(P3.00)] (P20.00) for every voter currently registered in the constituency where he filed his certificate of candidacy: Provided, That a candidate without any political party may be allowed to spend **TWENTY** Five Pesos [(P5.00)] (P25.00) for every such voter; and
- (b) For political parties.- **TWENTY** Five pesos [(5.00)] (P25.00) for every voter currently registered in the constituency or constituents where it has official candidates.

1 Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding any
2 contribution in cash or in kind to any candidate or political party or
3 coalition of parties for campaign purposes, duly reported to the
4 Commission shall not be subject to the payment of any gift tax.
5

6 THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS SHALL ADJUST THE
7 AUTHORIZED AMOUNT BASED ON THE CONSUMER PRICE
8 INDEX (CPI) EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS FOLLOWING THE
9 EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT.
10

11 **SEC. 2. Separability Clause.** – If any provision, section or part of this Act
12 shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect,
13 invalidate or impair any other provisions, sections or parts hereof.
14

15 **SEC. 3. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations
16 which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
17 accordingly.
18

19 **SEC. 4. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
20 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
21

22 *Approved,*
23