

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 266

Submitted by the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms on MAR 04 2020

Re : House Bill No. 6470

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5254

Sponsors : The Honorable Representatives Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer and Stella Luz A. Quimbo

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms, to which was referred House Bill No. 5254, introduced by Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo, entitled:


“AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 9 OF REPUBLIC ACT 10366, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
”ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH PRECINCTS
ASSIGNED TO ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES EXCLUSIVELY
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS”

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 6470, entitled:

“AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10366, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “AN ACT
AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH PRECINCTS
ASSIGNED TO ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES EXCLUSIVELY
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS”

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 5254 with the Representatives Stella Luz A. Quimbo and Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer as the authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:


REP. JULIET MARIE DE LEON FERRER
Chairperson
Committee on Suffrage and Electoral
Reforms

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 6470

(In substitution of House Bill No. 5254)

Introduced by the Honorable Representatives
Stella Luz A. Quimbo and Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer

AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10366, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT
AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH PRECINCTS
ASSIGNED TO ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES EXCLUSIVELY
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 (j) of Republic Act No. 10366 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2 (j). *Accessible polling place* refers to the venue where the Board of Election Inspectors (BEIs) conducts election-related proceedings and where the voters cast their votes. The accessible polling place shall be located at the ground floor, preferably near the entrance of the building, **SHALL BE READILY ACCESSIBLE TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**, and [is] **SHALL BE** free of any physical barriers and provided with necessary **INFRASTRUCTURE AND** services, including assistive devices, **RAMPs, RAILINGS, SIDEWALKS, ADEQUATE LIGHTING, VENTILATION AND OTHER FEATURES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS.**"

SEC. 2. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 10366 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 9. [*Creation of*] *Precincts for Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens.* – The Commission is hereby authorized to [establish] **DESIGNATE** precincts [of a nonterritorial nature,] **IN ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF** [exclusively for] persons with disabilities and senior citizens, **SUCH AS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, TOWN HALLS OR PLAZAS, CIVIC CENTERS, COMMUNITY CENTERS OR OTHER SIMILARLY DESIGNATED SPECIAL VENUES OR AREAS, AND PREFERABLY THOSE DESIGNED WITH SPECIAL FEATURES, TO ENSURE THEIR SAFETY AND COMFORT.** [who in their registration records manifest their intent to avail of their right to a separate precinct under this section. Pursuant hereto, the Commission shall establish at least one (1) such precinct, assigned to accessible polling places, for every voting center.] Such precincts shall be provided with assistive devices **PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 2 (J) OF THIS ACT** as well as the services of experts in assisting persons with disabilities."

1 **SEC. 3.** Within sixty (60) days from its effectivity, the Commission shall promulgate the
2 rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

3 **SEC. 4.** If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the
4 remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and
5 effect.
6

7 **SEC. 5.** All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, issuances,
8 presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are contrary
9 to and inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or
10 modified accordingly.
11

12 **SEC. 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
13 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
14

15 *Approved,*

House of Representatives
Committee Affairs Department

6470

FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 5254

**AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 9 OF REPUBLIC ACT 10366, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE “ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON
ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH PRECINCTS ASSIGNED TO ACCESSIBLE
POLLING PLACES EXCLUSIVELY FOR PERSON WITH DISABILITIES
AND SENIOR CITIZENS”**

Introduced by: REP. STELLA LUZ A. QUIMBO

Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

Committee Chairperson: REP. JULIET MARIE DE LEON FERRER

OBJECTIVES:

- To improve the voting experience of the vulnerable sector by assigning an earlier voting day for our elderly and the PWDs, thus ensuring an expedited, streamlined and convenient voting process and promote greater involvement of citizenry in the electoral process.

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Mandates that the Commission on Elections is authorized to designate precincts assigned to accessible polling places with the premises of the Municipal Hall or City Hall;
- Provides that the COMELEC shall extend the right to vote under the local absentee voting system provided under the existing laws and executive orders, to PWDs and senior citizens who are duly registered voters.

RELATED LAWS:

- Batas Pambansa Blg. 881
- Republic Act No. 10366
- Republic Act No. 7166