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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, MetroManila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 526



INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE FRED H. CASTRO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Section 66 of Batas Pambansa Bilang 881, otherwise known as **The Omnibus Election Code** by providing that any person holding appointive office or position, from the Department Secretary down to the Director level or their equivalent, who intends to run for an elective position, shall resign from office two (2) years prior to the next preceding election.

Clearly, this bill aims to prevent any appointive official from taking advantage of his position and from utilizing the resources of his office in order to gain popularity in pursuance of his political ambition. Further, this bill is intended to thwart the unconscionable practices of appointive officials in implementing programs and granting government projects, notwithstanding their not being in-line with the wholistic program of the government, designed specifically for the purpose of enhancing his political image and as a campaign propaganda, to the disadvantage of the other would-be candidates. Furthermore, this bill will temper the intense proclivity to succumb to the irresistible temptation of graft and corruption. Stated differently, this bill will guarantee that appointive officials will serve their office with sincerity and honesty and that government programs and projects will be implemented solely for the pursuit of the common good. Moreover, this bill will afford to every candidate an equal opportunity and a fair playing field in the political arena.

In view of the foregoing, approval hereof is highly recommended.


FRED H. CASTRO
Congressman
2nd District, Capiz

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 66 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 881, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. Section 66 of Batas Pambansa Bilang 881, as amended, is hereby amended
to read as follows:

“SEC. 66. Candidates holding appointive office or position. – Any
person holding a public appointive office or position, including active members
of the **Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Philippine National Police and
officers and employees in government-owned or controlled corporations,**
shall be considered ipso facto resigned from his office upon the filing of his
certificate of candidacy. PROVIDED, THAT ANY GOVERNMENT
OFFICIAL HOLDING THE POSITION OF DEPARTMENT SECRETARY
DOWN TO THE DIRECTOR LEVEL OR THEIR EQUIVALENT IN THE

ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND THE GOVERNMENT OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS WHO INTENDS TO RUN FOR AN ELECTIVE POSITION SHALL RESIGN FROM HIS OFFICE TWO YEARS PRIOR TO THE FILING OF HIS CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY. FAILURE TO RESIGN FROM HIS OFFICE WITHIN THE SAID PERIOD SHALL MAKE HIM INELIGIBLE TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE.

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,