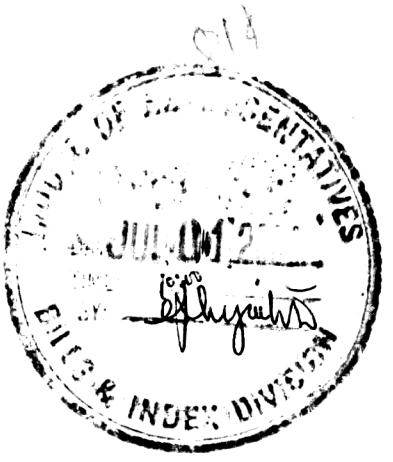
Republic of the Philippine
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVE
Quezon City

13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 814



Introduced by Congressman Harlin Cast. Abayon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Tampering election return is one of the most common frauds committed during elections. It is also one of the most serous, since it alters the free will of the people as expressed in the ballot and undetermined the very foundation of freedom.

The tampering of election returns has become rampant because of the unusually low penalty imposed on perpetrators. The attached bills seeks to minimize the incidents of tampering by increasing its penalty.

Approval of the measures is, therefore, earnestly sought.

HARLIN CAST. ABAYON

Republic of the Philippine
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Quezon City

13th Congress
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HOUSE BILL NO. 814

Introduced by Representative Abayon

AN ACT
INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR UNAUTHORIZED ALTERATION OF ELECTION RETURNS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, any member of the Board of Election Inspectors or Board of Canvassers who tampers, increases, or decreases the votes received by a candidate in any election after the announcement of the results thereof in the polling place, unless so ordered by the Commission on Elections or a competent court, shall be criminally liable for serious election offense and if found guilty, shall:

(a) Be punished with imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one day but not more than twelve years.

(b) Be disqualified for holding public office; and

(c) Be deprived of the right of suffrage.

SECTION 2. Any provision of law, decrees, executive order, letter of instructions, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, which ever comes earlier.

Approved,