

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1242

Introduced by HONORABLE LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

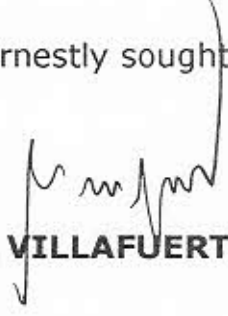
Republic Act No.7166, provides for the authorized expenses of candidates and political parties during the election campaign based on a per registered voter in their respective constituencies. Said law contains the aggregate amount of expenses for candidates for President, Vice-President, Senator and Congressman and other local candidates in provinces, cities and municipalities. The present limitations on expenses are hereby proposed to be amended for they have become unrealistic and insufficient which may result to more breach than compliance with the provisions thereof.

Presently, it is provided by law that the aggregate amount of Ten pesos (P10.00) per registered voter may be spent by candidates during election campaign for President and Vice-President and for other candidates, Three Pesos (P3.00) for every voter currently registered in the constituency where he filed his certificate of candidacy and a candidate without any political party and without support from any political party may be allowed to spend Five pesos (P5.00) for every such voter.

If one were to multiply the fixed rate per registered voter to specific constituencies, be they at the national, provincial, district, city or municipal levels, the aggregate amounts allowable for every category of candidate are way below the actual financial expenditures or outlays required for a political campaign. It must be recognized that the cost of paper for campaign materials, stationery, printing and distribution expenses have gone up, costs of fuel for transportation and the rental of sound systems, lights and decorations during political meetings and rallies including employment of watchers at the polls have increased. Sundry expenses for rent, maintenance and furnishing of campaign headquarters, office or place of meetings, compensation of campaigners, clerks, stenographers, messengers and persons actually employed in the campaign, telephone tolls, postage, freight and express delivery charges have also escalated.

Thus, it is imperative that Section 13 paragraph (a) of Republic Act 7166 be amended to allow an adjustment in order to adapt to monetary increases for inflation and to make the amount expended per voter to be more in keeping with the changes of the times.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



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AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED SEVENTY ONE SIXTY-SIX ENTITLED "SYNCHRONIZED NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS AND FOR ELECTORAL REFORMS" 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 paragraph (a) of Republic Act 7166 is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 13. *Authorized Expenses of Candidates and Political*
4 *Parties.* - The [agreement] amount [that] a candidate or
5 registered political party may spend [for] **during** the election
6 campaign shall be as follows:

7 (a) For candidates. - **Fifty pesos (₱50.00)** [Ten pesos
8 (₱10.00)] for President; **Thirty-five pesos (₱35.00)**
9 **[and] for Vice-President[;]** and **Senatorial**
10 **candidates for every registered voter;** and for
11 **congressman and other local candidates for**
12 **provinces, cities and municipalities other**
13 **candidates, Thirty Pesos (₱30.00)** [Three Pesos

1 (P3.00)] for every voter currently registered in the
2 constituency where he filed his certificate of candidacy:
3 Provided, That a candidate without any political party
4 and without support from any political party may be
5 allowed to spend **Thirty-Five Pesos [(P5.00)] (P35.00)**
6 for every such voter; and

7 **SEC. 2. Separability Clause.** - If any provisions or part of this Act
8 is declared unconstitutional such declaration of unconstitutionality will not
9 affect the other provisions of this Act.

10 **SEC. 3. Amending and Repealing Clause.** - Batas Pambansa Blg.
11 881 specifically Sections 100 and 101 thereof and all other laws, orders,
12 decrees, rules and regulations or other issuances, or any part thereof,
13 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or
14 repealed accordingly.

15 **SEC. 4. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
16 days from date of publication in full in at least two (2) national
17 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,