

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasang Pambansa, Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2998

Authored by **HON. JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Election offenses have long been a reality in Philippine politics. In fact, our people have witnessed massive incidents of election violations in the past which have eroded our people's confidence in the sanctity of our election process. This bills seeks to give more teeth to our existing law by increasing the penalties as provided for under Section 48 of Republic Act 8189. This should help deter deceitful individuals from committing election fraud.

In order to address the upsurge of election related offenses as well as to regain our people's faith in the election process, approval of this bill is strongly recommended.



JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

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AN ACT

**AMENDING SECTION 58 OF REPUBLIC ACT 8189 OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS "THE VOTERS REGISTRATION ACT OF 1996" BY
INCREASING THE PENALTY PROVIDED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Article 46 of Republic Act 8189 is hereby amended to
read as follows:

"Section 46. Penalties. Any person found guilty of any election offense under this Act shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than SIX (6) [one (1) years but not more than TWELVE (12) [six (6) years and shall not be subject to probation. In addition, the guilty party shall be sentenced to suffer disqualification to hold public office and deprivation of the right of suffrage. If he is a foreigner, he shall be deported after the prison term has been served. Any political party found guilty shall be sentenced to pay a fine not less than FIVE (5) [one (1)] hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) [P100,000.00]] but not more than ONE MILLION [Five Hundred Thousand} pesos (P1,000,000.00) [P500,000.00]."

SEC. 2. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules and regulations, executive or administrative orders and other presidential issuance inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,