

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **4549**



Introduced by Representatives:

Ibarra "Barry" Gutierrez III (AKBAYAN), Walden F. Bello (AKBAYAN), Anthony M. Bravo (COOP NATCCO), Juan Johnny R. Revilla (OFW FAMILY), Julieta R. Cortuna (A TEACHER), Edgardo R. Masongsong (1-CARE), Christopher S. Co (AKO BICOL), Rodel M. Batocabe (AKO BICOL), Cresente C. Paez (COOP NATCCO), Nicanor M. Briones (AGAP), Rico B. Geron (AGAP), Gary C. Alejano (MAGDALO), Francisco Ashley L. Acedillo (MAGDALO), Maximo Rodriguez, Jr. (ABAMIN), Sitti Djalía Turabin-Hataman (AMIN), Samuel D. Pagdilao (ACT-CIS), Catalina G. Leonen-Pizarro (ABS), Erlinda M. Santiago (1-SAGIP), Lorna Q. Velasco (AMA), Pablo R. Nava III (APPEND), and Roy V. Seneres, Sr. (OFW).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

After six party-list elections—the most recent of which is during the 13 May 2013 elections—and various Supreme Court pronouncements on the party-list system, it became not only clear but crucial that there is a need to amend Republic Act No. 7941 or the "Party-List System Act." There is an urgent need to make its provisions more consistent with the Constitutional mandate, intent and purpose which is to democratize the Philippine electoral and political system.

The recurring problems concerning registration and interpretation of the threshold of votes, including the confusing implementation of the Act, show that amendments are, in fact, overdue.

While the Supreme Court has attempted to settle and clarify various constitutional and legal issues involving the interpretation of the Act's key provisions through its decisions there are still, for example, debates on what is the correct formula for the allocation of party-list seats. Up until now, neither the formula discussed in the case of *Veterans Federation Party, et al. vs. Comelec, et al.* (06 October 2000) or that discussed in the case *BANAT vs. Comelec* (21 April 2009) has gained popular acceptance among experts, election practitioners and members of the academic community. Some experts were even quoted to say that the formula violated principles of proportionality that lie at the core of the party-list system.


While the decision of the Supreme Court in *Atong Paglaum, Inc. vs. Comelec* (02 April 2013) has promoted the Constitutional intent of proportional representation and

removed the focus from the requirement of marginalization for participating national and regional political parties or organizations, there is a need to incorporate this judicial decision to our legal system by translating it into a statute.

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




Ibarra "Barry" M. Gutierrez III




Walden F. Bello



Anthony M. Bravo



Juan Johnny R. Revilla

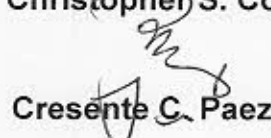


Julieta R. Cortuna

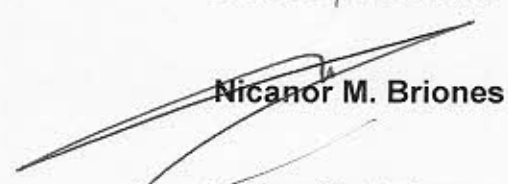
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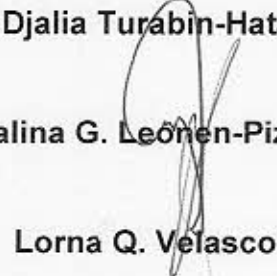
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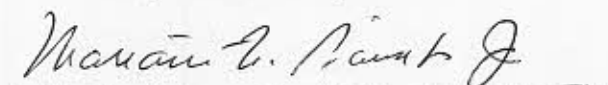
Erlinda M. Santiago



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MARIANO U. PIAMONTE JR.

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AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7941,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE “PARTY-LIST SYSTEM ACT”

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the “*Party-List Amendments Act of*
2 *2014*”.

3

4 **SECTION 2.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 7941, otherwise known as the “*Party-List*
5 *System Act*” is hereby amended by revising paragraphs (d) and (e), and by adding
6 definitions, as follows:

7

8 “Section 3. *Definition of Terms.*—

9

10 x x x

11

1 (d) A 'sectoral party' refers to (1) an organized group of
2 citizens belonging to any of the marginalized and
3 underrepresented sectors as provided in Section 5
4 hereof whose principal advocacy pertains to the interests
5 and concerns of its sector or to (2) an organized group
6 of citizens lacking a well-defined constituency.
7

8 (e) A 'sectoral organization' refers to a group of citizens or
9 a coalition of groups of citizens who share interests
10 and/or concerns.
11

12 x x x
13

14 (g) 'Available seats' refer to the actual number of
15 seats reserved for the party-list system as provided in
16 Section 11 of this Act.
17

18 (h) 'Winning minimum percentage threshold' refers to
19 the value of (1/available seats)*100%. The value of the
20 'winning minimum percentage threshold' shall be
21 expressed in at least six (6) decimal places for
22 accuracy.
23

24 (i) 'Winning minimum percenters' refer to those
25 national, regional and sectoral parties, organizations,
26 and coalitions whose percentage of votes as
27 determined under Section 12, paragraph 3 shall be
28 equal to or greater than the minimum percentage
29 threshold as defined in paragraph (h) of this Section.'
30

31 **SECTION 3.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "*Party-List*
32 *System Act*" is hereby amended to read as follows:
33

34 "*Section 4. Manifestation to Participate in the Party-List*
35 *System.*—Any national, regional or sectoral party,
36 organization, or coalition already registered with the
37 Commission under this Act, need not register anew and
38 shall automatically be eligible to participate in the
39 party-list elections without need of further
40 requirements: *Provided, That it has not ceased to*
41 exist for at least one (1) year prior to the date of the
42 party-list elections, or was not dissolved, absorbed,
43 merged or otherwise ceased to exist.
44

1 Such national, regional or sectoral party, organization,
2 or coalition shall formally manifest its intention to
3 participate in the party-list elections one hundred
4 eighty (180) days before the elections.

5
6 **SECTION 4.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "*Party-List*
7 *System Act*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

8
9 "Section 5. *Registration.*—

10
11 (a) Joint initial registration as political party and
12 party-list.—Any qualified group of persons may register
13 as a national, regional or sectoral political party and as
14 a participant in the party-list system by filing with the
15 Commission not later than one hundred eight (180) days
16 before the election a petition verified by its president or
17 chairperson, or in his absence, the secretary-general,
18 stating the following:

19
20 (1) Its intention to be registered as political party
21 under Section 61 of Batas Pambansa Bilang 881
22 otherwise known as the "Omnibus Election Code":
23 Provided, That all documentary and other
24 requirements under Section 61 of BP 881 should be
25 attached to the verified petition for registration; and

26
27 (2) Its intention to participate in the party-list system as
28 a national, regional, or sectoral party.

29
30 (b) Initial registration of existing political parties as
31 party-list.—Any political party already registered with
32 the Commission under Section 61 of BP 881 may
33 participate in the party-list elections by filing with the
34 Commission not later than one hundred eighty (180)
35 days before the election a petition verified by its
36 president or chairperson or, in his absence, the
37 secretary-general, stating its intent to participate in
38 the party-list system.

39
40 The petition in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this
41 Section shall be verified and shall state the following:

42
43 (i) Name and acronym of the party, organization or
44 coalition, with the acronym not exceeding twenty (20)

- 1 characters;
2 (ii) Nature of the organization, whether it is a national,
3 regional or sectoral party, organization or coalition;
4 (iii) For sectoral parties, the sector or sectors which
5 seeks to represent;
6 (iv) The name and address of its president or
7 chairperson or, in his absence, the secretary-general,
8 who will represent the party in the petition;
9 (v) Petitioner's principal headquarters and postal
10 office address;
11 (vi) Names, positions, and addresses of its elected
12 officers;
13 (vii) Petitioner's intention or desire to participate in
14 the party-list election;
15 (viii) Names and addresses of its chapter offices;
16 (ix) That all of its officers and members are made
17 aware of the petition and have given their consent
18 thereto;
19 (x) The list of documents attached to the petition;
20 (xi) That it is not a religious sect or denomination,
21 organization or association organized for religious
22 purposes;
23 (xii) That it shall not advocate violence or unlawful
24 means to achieve its goals;
25 (xiii) That it is not adjunct or a project organized or
26 an entity funded or assisted by the government;
27 (xiv) That it is not a foreign party or organization;
28 (xv) That it does not receive support for partisan
29 political purposes from any foreign government,
30 foreign political party, foundation, organization,
31 whether directly or indirectly, or through its officers
32 or members, or indirectly through third parties;
33 (xvi) The period of existence of petitioner, which shall
34 be at least one (1) year at the time the petition was
35 filed;
36 (xvii) A commitment to comply with the laws, rules
37 and regulations relating to elections; and
38 (xviii) In the case of a national or regional party,
39 organization or coalition, an undertaking that it shall
40 not field candidates in the legislative district
41 elections.

42
43 The president or chairperson or, in his absence, the
44 secretary-general, as representative of the party shall

1 affix his signature on the the verification portion of
2 the petition stating under oath that he is one of the
3 officers of the petitioner duly authorized to verify the
4 petition; that he has caused the preparation and filing
5 of the petition; and that he read and understood the
6 contents of and acknowledges the same to be true
7 and correct based on his personal knowledge.
8

9 Provided, That for the purpose of registering as a sectoral
10 party, the sectors shall include, but are not limited to,
11 labor, peasant, fisherfolk, urban poor, indigenous cultural
12 communities, elderly, cooperatives, handicapped,
13 women, youth, veterans, overseas workers, and
14 professional sectors. National and regional parties shall
15 not be required to register a sectoral constituency for the
16 purpose of participating in the party-list system.

17
18 The Commission may (i) *motu proprio*, refuse to give
19 due course to a verified petition for registration or (ii)
20 upon a verified petition of an interested party and
21 after a summary hearing, deny said verified petition
22 for registration if it is shown that such petition has
23 been filed to put the party-list election process in
24 mockery or disrepute or to cause confusion among
25 the voters by the similarity of petitioner's name to
26 any previously registered party-list or by other
27 circumstance or act which clearly demonstrate that
28 the petitioner has no *bona fide* intention to run in the
29 party-list to run the party-list election and thus
30 prevent a faithful determination of the true will of the
31 electorate.
32

33 Failure to submit any of the aforementioned formal
34 requirements shall result in the dismissal *motu*
35 *proprio* of its verified petition for registration;
36 otherwise, the Commission shall immediately publish
37 the verified petition in at least two (2) national
38 newspapers of general circulation setting the same for
39 hearing.
40

41 The Commission shall, after due notice and hearing,
42 resolve said petition, including a motion for its
43 reconsideration within thirty (30) days from the date of
44 its submission for resolution but not later than one

1 hundred twenty (120) days before election. **The**
2 **resolution of the petition for registration for**
3 **registration shall be limited to an evaluation of its**
4 **compliance with the documentary requirements and**
5 **its eligibility under Section 6.**

6
7 **(c) Parties, organizations or coalitions previously**
8 **registered under the party-list elections shall not be**
9 **required to register under subparagraphs (a) or (b) of**
10 **this Section: *Provided*, That they comply with the**
11 **requirements in Section 4.**

12
13 **SECTION 5.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "*Party-List*
14 *System Act*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

15
16 "Section 6. *Removal and/or Cancellation of*
17 *Registration.*—The Commission may *motu proprio* or
18 upon a verified complaint of any interested party, remove
19 or cancel, after due notice and hearing, the registration of
20 any national, regional or sectoral party, organization or
21 coalition on any of the following grounds:

22
23 (1) It is a religious sect or denomination, organization or
24 association, organized for religious purposes;

25
26 (2) It advocates violence or unlawful means to seek its
27 goal;

28
29 (3) It is a foreign party or organization;

30
31 (4) It is receiving support from any foreign government,
32 foreign political party, foundation, organization, whether
33 directly or through any of its officers or members or
34 indirectly through third parties or partisan election
35 purposes;

36
37 (5) It violates or fails to comply with laws, rules or
38 regulations relating to elections;

39
40 (6) It declares **any** untruthful statement in its petition or
41 **submissions**;

42
43 **(7) It was dissolved, absorbed, merged and/or has**
44 **ceased to exist**;

1
2 (8) In the case of a national or regional party,
3 organization or coalition, that it nominated
4 candidates in the district elections for the House of
5 Representatives.

6
7 A national, regional or sectoral party, organization or
8 coalition which (i) fails to participate in the two (2)
9 immediately preceding elections, or (ii) having
10 participated therein fails to obtain at least the
11 winning minimum percentage or the party-list votes,
12 or (iii) not only failed to participate in the elections
13 immediately preceding its registration in the party-list
14 system but also failed to obtain at least the winning
15 minimum percentage of party-list votes in the
16 immediately subsequent elections, shall be
17 automatically dropped for the list of the party-list:
18 Provided, That this is a ground for the automatic
19 cancellation of its registration: Provided, further,
20 That no complaint or petition is needed to effect such
21 a cancellation: Provided, finally, That cancellation of
22 registration under these grounds will perpetually bar
23 the organization from participating in the party-list
24 system.

25
26 A complaint for cancellation of registration of any
27 national, regional or sectoral party may only be filed
28 once every three (3) years and in no case within six
29 (6) months before the next national elections:
30 Provided, That no case of the same or similar nature
31 shall be recognized by the Commission after the said
32 period. All complaints for cancellation of registration
33 must be decided by the Commission not later than
34 sixty (60) days before the next elections.

35
36 The pendency of a complaint and/or motion for
37 reconsideration of a resolution denying a complaint
38 for cancellation of registration of a national, regional
39 or sectoral party shall not be a ground for deferment
40 of the proclamation of the concerned party-list."

41
42 **SECTION 6.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "Party-List
43 System Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:
44

1 “Section 7. *Certified List of Registered Parties.*—The
2 Commission shall, not later than **seventy-five (75)** days
3 before election, prepare a certified list of national,
4 regional, or sectoral parties, organizations or coalitions
5 which have applied or manifested their desire to
6 participate under the party-list system and distribute
7 copies thereof to all precincts for posting in the polling
8 places on election day. **Said certified list shall be**
9 **published in a newspaper of general circulation at**
10 **least once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks.**”

11
12 **SECTION 7.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the “*Party-List*
13 *System Act*” is hereby amended to read as follows:

14
15 “Section 8. *Nomination of Party-List Representatives.*—
16 Each registered **national, regional or sectoral** party,
17 organization or coalition shall submit to the Commission
18 not later than **ninety (90)** days before the election a list of
19 names, not less than five (5), from which party-list
20 representatives shall be chosen in case it obtains the
21 required number of votes. **Such list shall be verified by**
22 **the president or chairperson, or in their absence, the**
23 **secretary-general of the party-list organization.**

24
25 A person may be nominated in one (1) list only. Only
26 persons who have given their consent in writing may be
27 named in the list. The list shall not include any candidate
28 for any elective office or person who has lost his bid for
29 an elective office **in the current or** in the immediately
30 preceding election, **excluding barangay elections:**
31 **Provided, That any incumbent government official**
32 **and employee including any active member of the**
33 **Armed Forces of the Philippines and any employee in**
34 **government-owned or –controlled corporations who**
35 **is nominated to the party-list shall be considered**
36 **ipso facto resigned from the service on the last of**
37 **filing of certificates of candidacy for national elective**
38 **positions.**

39
40 **No party-list nominee from the same party,**
41 **organization or coalition shall be related up to the**
42 **fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity to other**
43 **party-list nominees.**

1 Any party-list member or nominee who becomes a
2 member or nominee of another party shall be
3 considered resigned from the original or previous
4 party.

5
6 No change of names or alteration of the order of
7 nominees shall be allowed after the same has been
8 submitted to the Commission except in cases where the
9 nominee dies, or withdraws in writing his nomination, OR
10 becomes incapacitated, in which cases the name of the
11 substitute shall be placed in the list.

12
13 The Commission shall, not later than seventy-five
14 (75) days before election, prepare a certified list of
15 nominees. Said certified list shall be published in a
16 newspaper of general circulation at least once a week
17 for two (2) consecutive weeks.

18
19 In case two (2) or more different lists of nominees are
20 submitted to the Commission, the latter shall
21 recognize the list verified by the president or
22 chairperson, or in his absence, the secretary-general,
23 of the party-list organization.

24
25 Issues in regard two (2) or more different lists of
26 nominees shall be resolved in a summary hearing,
27 and in every case, the by-laws of the party-list
28 organization shall guide the Commission to the
29 resolution of the issue. The Commission shall ensure
30 that proceedings are expeditious and that a
31 resolution thereof be made within five (5) working
32 days.

33
34 **SECTION 8.** Section 9 of Republic Act NO. 7941 otherwise known as the "*Party-List*
35 *System Act*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

36
37 "Section 9. Qualification of Party-List Nominees."—A
38 party-list nominee must be:

39
40 (a) A natural-born citizen of the Philippines;

41 (b) A registered voter;

42 (c) A resident of the Philippines for a period of not
43 less than one (1) year immediately preceding the day
44 of the electon;

- 1 (d) Able to read and write;
2 (e) A bona fide member of the party or organization
3 which the nominee seeks to represent for at least
4 ninety (90) days preceding the day of the election;
5 and
6 (f) At least twenty-five (25) years of age on the day of
7 the election.

8
9 In case of a nominee of the youth sector, he must at least
10 be twenty-five (25) but not more than thirty (30) years of
11 age on the day of the election. Any youth sectoral
12 representative who reaches the age of thirty (30) during
13 his term shall be allowed to continue until the expiration
14 of his term.

15
16 No other qualification shall be required of nominees
17 except if Congress provides for the same through the
18 enactment of a subsequent law."

19
20 **SECTION 9.** A new provision after Section 9 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise
21 known as the "*Party-List System Act*" is hereby added:

22
23 "Section 9-A. Complaint for disqualification of party-
24 list nominee.—The Commission may motu proprio or
25 upon verified complaint of any interested party,
26 remove or disqualify, after due notice and hearing, a
27 nominee of a particular party on the ground that the
28 said nominee lacks any of the qualifications of a
29 party-list nominee as enumerated in Section 9 of this
30 Act: Provided, That a complaint for disqualification of
31 a nominee may only be filed against a particular
32 nominee within ten (10) days after the submission of
33 the list of nominees to the Commission. The
34 pendency of a complaint and/or motion for
35 reconsideration denying a complaint for
36 disqualification of a nominee shall not be a ground
37 for the deferment and suspension of the
38 proclamation of the concerned party."

39
40 **SECTION 10.** Section 10 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "*Party-*
41 *List System Act*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

42
43 "Section 10. Manner of Voting.—Every voter shall be
44 entitled to two votes **for the House of Representatives.**

1 The first is a vote for a candidate for member of the
2 House of Representatives in his legislative district, and
3 the second, a vote for the **national, regional or sectoral**
4 party, organization, or coalition **which the voter** wants to
5 be represented in the House of Representatives:
6 *Provided*, That a vote cast for a **national, regional or**
7 **sectoral party**, organization or coalition not entitled to be
8 voted for shall not be counted **and considered in the**
9 **computation of the total number of valid votes cast**
10 **for the party-list.**
11

12 **SECTION 11.** Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "*Party-*
13 *List System Act*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

14
15 *"Section 11. Number of Party-List Representatives.—*The
16 party-list representatives shall constitute twenty per
17 centum (20%) of the total number of the members of the
18 House of Representatives including those under the
19 party-list.
20

21 **No party, organization, or coalition shall be entitled**
22 **to more than three (3) seats.**
23

24 **SECTION 12.** Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "*Party-*
25 *List System Act*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

26
27 *"Section 12. Procedure in Allocating Seats for the Party-*
28 *List Representatives.—***In allocating seats for the party-**
29 **list representatives, the Commission shall adopted**
30 **the following procedure:**
31

32 **(a) The total number of available seats open for the**
33 **party-list elections, equivalent to twenty percent**
34 **(20%) of the total membership of the House of**
35 **Representatives, shall be determined by multiplying**
36 **the total number of members coming from the**
37 **legislative districts with twenty-five percent (25%).**
38 **The integer part of the result shall be the total**
39 **number of available seats for the the party-list**
40 **system.**
41

$$42 \quad \text{ASPL} = (\text{SLD} \times 0.25)$$

43
44 **Where:**

1 ASPL: available seats open for party-list
2 organizations

3 SLD: total number of members coming from
4 legislative districts

5
6 (b) The parties, organizations and coalitions that
7 participated in the party-list election shall be ranked
8 from the highest to the lowest based on the actual
9 number of votes they obtained during the elections.

10
11 (c) The percentage of votes of each party-list
12 organization relative to the total number of valid
13 votes cast for the party-list election shall be
14 determined by dividing the votes garnered by the
15 party-list organization with the sum total of valid
16 votes cast for all party-list organizations multiplied
17 by one hundred (100), computed up to six (6) decimal
18 places.

$$20 \quad \text{VPL}\% = (\text{AVPL} \div \text{TVV}) \times 100$$

21
22 Where:

23 VPL%: percentage of votes of a party-list
24 organization relative to the total number of valid
25 votes cast

26 AVPL: total number of votes garnered by the party-
27 list organization

28 TVV: total of valid votes cast for all party-list
29 organizations

30
31 (d) The winning minimum percentage threshold shall
32 be determined by dividing one (1) by the total number
33 of available seats open for the party-list elections
34 multiplied by one hundred percent (100%), computed
35 up to six (6) decimal places. The winning minimum
36 percenters shall then be listed separately.

$$38 \quad \text{WMT} = (1 \div \text{ASPL}) \times 100\%$$

39
40 Where:

41 WMT: winning minimum percentage threshold

42
43 (e) The number of seats that shall be awarded to the
44 winning minimum percenters shall be computed as

1 follows:

2
3 (1) The votes garnered by each winning minimum
4 percentor shall be multiplied by the total available
5 seats for the party-list system and divided by the
6 total votes cast for all the winning minimum
7 percenters.

$$8 \qquad \qquad \qquad \underline{S = (AVPL \times ASPL) \div TVWM}$$

9
10
11 Where:

12 S: number of seats to be awarded

13 TVWM: total votes cast for all winning minimum
14 percenters

15
16 (2) The integer part of the result in Paragraph (1) of
17 this Section shall determine the number of seats
18 awarded to each winning minimum percentor. No
19 party, organization, or coalition shall be entitled to
20 more than three (3) seats.

21
22 (3) Following this first round of seat allocations, any
23 remaining unallocated seats shall be allocated
24 according to the following procedures:

25
26 (i) National, regional or sectoral parties that did not
27 obtain a percentage of votes equal to or greater than
28 the minimum percentage threshold shall be ranked
29 from highest to lowest based on the actual votes they
30 have garnered.

31
32 (ii) One (1) seat shall be allocated to each of the
33 parties falling under Paragraph (i) above, as ranked,
34 until all the seats unallocated in the first round shall
35 have been exhausted."

36
37 **SECTION 13.** Section 15 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "Party-
38 *List System Act*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

39
40 "Section 15. *Change of Affiliation; Effect.*—Any elector
41 party-list representative who changes his party-list
42 affiliation during his term of office shall forfeit his seat."
43

44 **SECTION 14.** Section 17 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the "Party-

1 *List System Act*” is hereby amended to read as follows:
2

3 “*Section 17. Rights of Party-List Representatives.*—Party-
4 list representatives shall be entitled to the same salaries,
5 emoluments, **and all rights, privileges and benefits** as
6 **district** members of the House of Representatives.”
7

8 **SECTION 15.** A new section is hereby inserted after Section 17, as follows:
9

10 “**Section 17-A. Voters education.**—**The Commission,**
11 **together with and in support of accredited citizens’**
12 **arms, shall carry out a continuing and systematic**
13 **campaign through newspapers of general circulation,**
14 **radio and other media forms, as well as through**
15 **seminars, symposia, forums and other non-**
16 **traditional means to educate the public and fully**
17 **inform the electorate about the party-list system**
18 **including how to cast the vote therefor.**”
19

20 **SECTION 16.** Section 18 of Republic Act No. 7941 otherwise known as the “*Party-*
21 *List System Act*” is hereby amended to read as follows:
22

23 “*Section 18. Rules and Regulations.*—**The Commission,**
24 **in consultation with registered party-list**
25 **organizations and other interested parties,** shall
26 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations **in the**
27 **form resolutions** as may be necessary to carry out the
28 purposes of this Act. ”
29

30 **SECTION 17. Separability Clause.**—If for any reason, any provision of this Act is
31 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby
32 shall continue to be in force and effect.
33

34 **SECTION 18. Repealing Clause.**—All laws, decrees, executive orders,
35 proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or part or parts thereof,
36 particularly of Republic Act No. 7941, or the “*Party-List System Act*” and of Republic
37 Act No. 9006, or the “*Fair Elections Act*,” which are inconsistent with the provisions of
38 this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
39

40 **In the same manner, all inconsistent provisions of the COMELEC Resolution**
41 **No. 9366 (or the Rules and Regulations Governing the Filing of Petitions for**
42 **Registration, Filing of Manifestation of Intent to Participate, Submission of**
43 **Names of Nominees, and Filing of Disqualification Cases Against Nominees of**
44 **Party-List Groups or Organizations Participating Under the Party-List System**

1 of Representation in Connection with the May 13, 2013 National and Local
2 Elections, and Subsequent Elections Thereafter) are hereby repealed.

3

4 **SECTION 19. *Effectivity Clause.***—This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
5 the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers
6 of general circulation.

Approved,