

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. **8371**



Introduced by Representative ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS
2nd District, Surigao del Norte

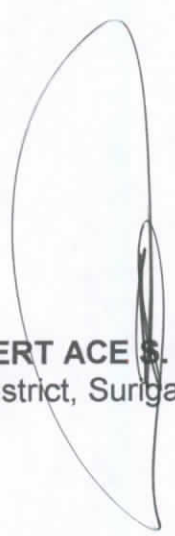
EXPLANATORY NOTE

AN ACT INCREASING PENALTIES ON CERTAIN ELECTION OFFENSES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 264 OF BATAS PAMBANSA 881 OR THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

This bill seeks to increase the penalty being imposed to any person making false or untruthful statement relative to any of the data or information required in the application for registration. Registered voters who register anew without filing an application for cancellation of his previous registration will also be imposed with the same penalty. The Omnibus Election Code only provides a fine of imprisonment of not less than a year and not more than six years on said election offenses.

Flying voters, as they are locally known, are those who are registered in multiple precincts and are used by politicians to get more votes. These flying voters use fictitious addresses, where they are not actual residents, to register in the upcoming elections. According to Section 261(y)(2) and (5), flying voters are criminally liable. But despite this punitive element, flying voters appear to turn a blind eye to the penalties. In order to systematically stop this practice, higher and stiffer penalties must be imposed to institute this election reform.

It is high time that we amend the penalties on election offenses so the Comelec can impose an iron hand against these flying voters to eradicate this long time illegal practice of flying voters in our country.


HON. ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS
2nd District, Surigao del Norte

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AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 264 OF BATAS PAMBANSA 881 OR
THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

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

SECTION 1. Section 264 of the Omnibus Election Code of the Philippines is hereby
amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 264. Penalties – x x x

x x x

x x x

**ANY PERSON FOUND GUILTY OF THE FOLLOWING OFFENSES SHALL
BE LIABLE FOR A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED
THOUSAND PESOS BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE MILLION PESOS AND
IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX YEARS BUT NOT MORE THAN
TWELVE YEARS:**

**1) MAKING ANY FALSE OR UNTRUTHFUL STATEMENT RELATIVE TO
ANY OF THE DATA OR INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE APPLICATION
FOR REGISTRATION, AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 261 (y)(2); OR**

**2) REGISTERING ANEW WITHOUT FILING AN APPLICATION FOR
CANCELLATION OF HIS PREVIOUS REGISTRATION, AS PROVIDED
UNDER SECTION 261 (y)(5).**

x x x

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

Approved.