

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 2698



Introduced by: HONORABLE SHERNEE A. TAN-TAMBU

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 6, Article VII of the Constitution explicitly provides that the President shall have an official residence. However, there is no provision in the Constitution prohibiting the establishment of an official residence for the second highest elected official of the land. And so, the Office of the Vice-President has to move from one place to another depending on the choice of the Vice-President.

Our past Vice-Presidents used the Coconut Palace or the Tahanang Maharlika and also the Quezon City Reception House in New Manila, Quezon City. Being the second highest elected public official of the land, the Vice-President needs a presentable official residence where he or she can meet official visitors like public officials, foreign dignitaries or even common people needing assistance.

After considering the cost of securing private residences, the United States has been using the United States Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C., as the official residence for Vice-President since 1974. The practice of providing official residence for highest elected officials is not new. Other countries have official residence for President and Prime Minister as most countries have no position for Vice President. In India, the official residence for Vice-President is called *Upa-Rashtrapati Bhavan* while in Indonesia, the official residence is called *Rumah Dinas Wakil Presiden*.

The construction and establishment of the official residence for the Vice-President will be beneficial to the government in the long run due to rising cost of rental, and other services.

The foregoing reasons warrant the immediate approval of this important legislative measure.


SHERNEE A. TAN-TAMBU
Representative
Kusug Tausug Partylist

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 2698

Introduced by: HONORABLE SHERNEE A. TAN-TAMBU

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF A PERMANENT OFFICIAL RESIDENCE
FOR THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established an Official Residence for the Vice-President of the Republic of the Philippines.

SEC. 2. The Vice-President is hereby authorize to create a Technical Working Group (TWG) that will determine the location of the permanent site, planning, design, cost estimates and other details related to the construction of the Official Residence, which shall be completed within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, and shall promptly submit the same to Congress together with its recommendation.

SEC. 3. Any amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the appropriations of the Office of the Vice-President of the year following its enactment into law.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,