

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **4030**



Introduced by Representative Richard I. Gomez, DPA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the recent elections of May 2025, the campaign period was fraught with various contentious activities such as the partisan active participation of barangay captains and temporary contract workers or “job order (JO)” workers.

In such situations, incumbent candidates enjoyed undue advantages during the campaign process. Candidates who were supported by incumbent barangay captains benefited from localized campaign leaders who held the power to use barangay resources. On the other hand, candidates who held local chief executive positions had access to a significant range of manpower by taking advantage of JO workers, to carry out campaign human resource needs.

Such situations give unfair advantage to some candidates, and hence, become impediments to the conduct of clean and fair elections. This bill proposes amendments to the Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 or the Omnibus Election Code, to include in the list of acts considered as election offenses (Section 261) – the participation of barangay captains and JOs in partisan political activity. The exception to this would be if the barangay captain is the candidate himself.

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

RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA

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AN ACT PROHIBITING THE PARTICIPATION OF INCUMBENT BARANGAY CAPTAINS IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS OTHER THAN THEIR OWN, AND TEMPORARY GOVERNMENT WORKERS, AMENDING BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 881, OR THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE SEC. 261

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

SECTION 1. Article XXII- Election Offenses, Section 261 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 or the Omnibus Election Code, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 261. *Prohibited Acts.*- The following shall be guilty of an election offense:

XXX;

(i) Intervention of public officers and employees. – Any officer or employee in the civil service, except those holding political offices **OTHER THAN BARANGAY CAPTAINS; ANY TEMPORARY GOVERNMENT WORKER** any officer, employee, or member or the Armed Forces of the Philippines, or any police force, special forces, home defense forces, barangay self-defense units and all other para-military units that now exist or which may hereafter be organized who, directly or indirectly, intervenes in any election campaign or engages in any partisan political activity, except to vote or to preserve public order, if he is a peace officer;

X X X.”

SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, decree, ordinance, or rules and regulations not consistent with any provision of this Act is hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,