

Republic of the Philippines

House of Representatives

Quezon City, Metro Manila



1 2 3 Twentieth Congress First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6771

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Introduced by Rep. Faustino G. Dy III and Rep. Ferdinand Alexander A. Marcos

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

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The core of democratic governance is the principle of political equality – that every citizen should have an equal opportunity to participate in and influence political decision-making.

Article II, Section 26 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "[t]he State shall guarantee equal access to opportunities for public service and prohibit political dynasties as may be defined by law."

This constitutional provision embodies one of the fundamental aspirations of our democratic system, a political system characterized by fairness, equal opportunity, and genuine public service.

However, despite this constitutional mandate, political dynasties have remained a pervasive feature of Philippine politics due to the absence of an enabling law that defines and prohibits them.

Under this proposed measure, spouses, siblings, and relatives within the fourth civil degree of affinity or consanguinity of a duly elected public officer are disqualified from simultaneously holding identified elective public positions.

This bill is a faithful execution of the above constitutional provision—a strategic reform for good governance, and an assertion of the principle that public

| 1 | office is a public trust. It aims to uphold the integrity, competitiveness, and | | | |
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| 2 | inclusivity of democratic institutions by ensuring that public office is earned | | | |
| 3 | through meritocracy and public confidence. | | | |
| 4 | Moreover, the bill reinforces the country's alignment with international | | | |
| 5 | democratic standards, bolsters compliance with human rights and anti-corruption | | | |
| 6 | commitments, and advances equitable political participation across all sectors of | | | |
| 7 | society. | | | |
| 8 | With this measure, Congress will finally fulfill its constitutional mandate | | | |
| 9 | to prohibit political dynasties and take a crucial step toward building a more | | | |
| 10 | inclusive and accountable political system for all Filipinos. | | | |
| 11 | In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly | | | |
| 12 | sought. | | | |
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| 17 | REP. FACTINO G. DY III REP. FERDINAND ALEXANDER A. MARCOS | | | |
| 18 | 6th District of Isabela 1st District of Ilocos Norte | | | |



Republic of the Philippines

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Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6771**

Introduced by Rep. Faustino G. Dy III and Rep. Ferdinand Alexander A. Marcos

AN ACT DEFINING AND PROHIBITING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND PERPETUATION OF POLITICAL DYNASTIES TO PROMOTE EQUITABLE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Anti-Political

19 Dynasty Act."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy*. – It is the declared policy of the State to uphold and guarantee equal access to opportunities for public office and render service to the people. Toward this end, the State shall adopt measures to prevent the establishment and perpetuation of political dynasties or familial concentrations of political power and shall promote equal opportunities for all citizens to participate in governance and serve the public based on merit, competence, and integrity.

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| 2 | SECTION 3. <i>Definition of Terms.</i> – As used in this Act: |
| 3 | (a) Elective positions refer to the positions of: |
| 4 | i. President, Vice-President, and Senator for national-level; |
| 5 | ii. Member of the House of Representatives for district-level and |
| 6 | party-lists; |
| 7 | iii. Governor, Vice-Governor, and Members of the Sangguniang |
| 8 | Panlalawigan for provincial-level; |
| 9 | iv. City Mayor, City Vice-Mayor, and Members of the Sangguniang |
| 10 | Panlungsod for city-level; |
| 11 | v. Municipal Mayor, Municipal Vice-Mayor, and Members of the |
| 12 | Sangunniang Bayan for municipality-level; |
| 13 | vi. Punong Barangay and Members of the Sangguniang Barangay |
| 14 | for barangay-level. |
| 15 | (b) Political dynasty refers to the concentration and dominance of |
| 16 | elective political power by persons related to one another; |
| 17 | (c) Political dynasty relationship refers to an existing familial |
| 18 | relationship with an incumbent elective public official, such as a spouse, direct |
| 19 | ascendant or descendant, sibling or any other person related within the fourth civil |
| 20 | degree of consanguinity or affinity whether legitimate or illegitimate, full or half- |

blood;

| 1 | (d) | Relatives refer to individuals who have an existing political dynasty |
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| 2 | ralationshin | with an incumbent elective public official; and |
| _ | i Cianonsinp | with an incumpent elective public differal, and |

- 3 (e) Spouse refers to the legal or common law spouse of the incumbent 4 elective public official.
- SECTION 4. *Applicability.* This Act shall be applicable to the next election and to all subsequent elections thereafter.
- SECTION 5. *Persons Covered; Prohibited Candidates.* Any person with a political dynasty relationship, as defined in Section 3 of this Act, shall not be allowed to hold and occupy public office in any of the following manner:

- 1. If a person is an incumbent or candidate for any elective national position, the spouse and the above relatives are prohibited to simultaneously hold any elective national position;
 - 2. If a person is an incumbent or candidate for the position of Member of the House of Representatives (HOR), the spouse and the above relatives are prohibited to simultaneously hold the same position within the same legislative district;
 - 3. If a person is an incumbent or candidate for any elective provincial position, the spouse and the above relatives are prohibited to simultaneously hold any elective position in the same provincial government;

- 4. If a person is an incumbent or candidate for any elective city or municipal office, the spouse and the above relatives are prohibited to simultaneously hold any elective position in the same city or municipal government.
- 5. If a person is an incumbent or candidate for any elective barangay office, the spouse and the above relatives are prohibited to simultaneously hold any position in the same barangay.
- SECTION 6. *Statement with the COMELEC.* Any person running for any elective public office covered by this Act shall file a sworn statement with the COMELEC stating, among others, that he or she does not have a political dynasty relationship as defined and prohibited by this Act.

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- SECTION 7. *Effect of Violation of Prohibition.* The COMELEC shall, *motu proprio* or upon verified petition of any citizen of voting age, deny due course to any certificate of candidacy filed in violation of Section 5 of this Act and the votes cast for the disqualified candidate, if any, shall not be counted and deemed not counted, nor shall such candidate be proclaimed nor be qualified to assume office.
- SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within ninety (90)

 days from the effectivity of this Act, the COMELEC shall promulgate the

 necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

- 1 SECTION 9. Separability Clause. If any provision or part of this Act is
- 2 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not
- 3 affected shall remain in force and effect.
- 4 SECTION 10. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, executive orders,
- 5 proclamations, rules and regulations, contrary to or inconsistent with the
- 6 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- 7 SECTION 11. *Effectivity*. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
- 8 after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general
- 9 circulation.
- 10 Approved,

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