



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6952



Introduced by: Rep. Esmael G. Mangudadatu

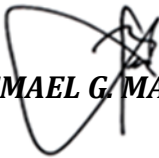
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 9997, which created the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), aims to ensure the rights and well-being of Muslim Filipinos with due regard to their beliefs, customs, traditions and institutions, as well as to further ensure their contribution to national goals and aspirations and to make them active participants in nation-building. Among the provisions of the said law is the creation of the commission composed of nine (9) commissioners that is tasked to preserve and develop the culture, tradition, institutions, and well-being of Muslim Filipinos, in conformity with the country's laws and in consonance with national unity and development.

Section 5 of said law specifically mentioned that the Commission shall be composed of nine (9) full-time members who are Muslim Filipinos, with one Commissioner coming from the women, youth, and Ulama sectors.

However, with the growing number of Filipinos who have chosen to return to Islam (Balik-Islam) and submit to its pillars, doctrines, and practices, there is a need to strengthen NCMF's inclusivity and ensure broader representation by amending Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9997 by specifically allocating a seat in the Commission for a representation from the Balik-Islam community as there are various challenges faced by the Balik-Islam community, which can range from personal, familial, and community-related concerns.

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


ESMAEL G. MANGUDADATU



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AN ACT
AMENDING ARTICLE I SECTION 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9997, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MUSLIM FILIPINOS ACT OF 2009"

INTRODUCED BY: REP. ESMAEL G. MANGUDADATU

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

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Article I Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9997 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 5. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION. The Commission shall be composed of nine (9) full-time members who are Muslim Filipinos and shall be headed by a Secretary: Provided, That one (1) of the Commissioners shall come from the women sector, one (1) from the youth sector, [and] another Commissioner shall come from the Ulama sector, AND ONE (1) FROM THE BALIK-ISLAM: Provided, further, That not more than two (2) Commissioners shall come from the same Muslim Filipino tribe at any given time, to ensure a more equitable representation in the Commission. The President shall appoint the regular members of the Commission. The Commissioners shall be academic degree holders and must speak and write fluently the English and/or Arabic languages. They shall be individuals who possess the highest degree of integrity and have the endorsement of their respective tribes or sectors. XX X."

SECTION 2. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. REPEALING CLAUSE. All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, and rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVITY. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED.