

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7095



Introduced by: Rep. Iris Marie D. Montes and Rep. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

AN ACT
PROHIBITING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POLITICAL DYNASTIES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This imperative principle is indispensable in our democratic and republican State as the perpetuation of political dynasties can undermine the quality of our democratic life and economic development. Such grotesque political phenomenon in the country has in fact engendered inequality, which tend to further the vicious cycle of poverty of our people.

Various scholars posit that political dynasties can lead to extreme personalism in the exercise of power, which may undermine the existence of a strong state and the implementation of wide ranging public policies that are beneficial to all people.

Almost four decades since the ratification of the Constitution, Congress is yet to pass a legislation that would define political dynasties and ultimately give force and effect to the principle and policy that was gloriously enunciated by the Constitution.

According to the report of the International Observer Mission (IOM) for the 2025 Philippine Elections, the May 12, 2025 elections are "dominated by political dynasties – an oligarchy of elite families rooted in the feudal land and political structures that pervade Philippine society."¹

Based on the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism's (PCIJ) own count, Filipino voters crowned at least 18 obese dynasties in 2025 elections or those with at least five clan members who are active in politics.²

These political dynasties, in general, undermine electoral competition, perpetuate corruption and patronage politics, and erode government accountability.

¹ <https://ichrp.net/zero-in-dynasties-plague-2025-philippine-elections/> Accessed on 13 December 2025

² The 'obese' dynasties of the Philippines are crowned again, but reform hopes rise for 2028, Carmela Fonbuena, May 202, 2025 (<https://pcij.org/2025/05/20/obese-dynasties-of-the-philippines-results-crowned-again-but-reform-hopes-rise-2028-polls/>) Accessed on 13 December 2025

Now more than ever is the time to demand the passage of an anti-political dynasty law to prevent the continued concentration of power in the hands of a few, strengthen democracy, and promote the equal distribution of wealth and opportunities.

Hence, this bill seeks to end the dynastic nature of politics in the country with the end view of broadening political participation and strengthening the political party system in the country.

It espouses an anti-dynasty law that prohibits family members up to the second degree of consanguinity (e.g., grandparent-grandchild, aunt/uncle-nephew/niece) from holding public office either contemporaneously across level and jurisdiction and immediately after the incumbent family member.

Through this design, the bill hopes to dismantle numerous active political dynasties in the country, as it covers most of the filial relationships that political families rely upon for their perpetuation, without infringing upon the democratic rights of many people. The bill also covers party-list abuse by dynasts.

It is hoped that this measure will contribute in the crafting of an anti-political dynasty legislation that will promote political inclusivity and progress.

In view thereof, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


IRIS MARIE D. MONTES

Kababaihan Kabalikatan para sa Kapakanan
at Kaunlaran ng Bayan (4K) Party-list


KEITH MICAH "ATTY. MIKE" D.L. TAN
4th District, Quezon

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Laban sa Dinastiyang Politikai Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to guarantee equal access and opportunity to public office and service to the public. Towards this end, the State adopts a policy of prohibiting political dynasties as hereinafter defined to give force and effect to this policy and prevent the concentration of political power to a limited few.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - The following terms, as used herein shall mean:

(a) *Political Dynasty* refers to the concentration, consolidation or perpetuation of political powers by persons related to one another;

(b) *Political Dynasty Relationship* refers to the situation where a person who is the spouse or a relative within the second civil degree of consanguinity of an incumbent elective official holds an elective office simultaneously with the incumbent elective official within the same legislative district, city, municipality, and/or province or occupies the same office immediately after the term of office of the incumbent elective official.

A political dynasty relationship shall also be deemed to exist where two (2) or more persons who are spouses or related to one another within the second civil degree of consanguinity run simultaneously for elective public office within the same legislative district, province, city, municipality, and/or province even if neither is so related to the incumbent elective official;

(c) *Second Civil Degree of Consanguinity* refers to the degree of relationship by blood of a person with his/her brother or sister, direct ascendant or direct descendant, whether legitimate or illegitimate, full or half-blood, including their spouses;

(d) *Spouse* refers to the legal and common-law wife or husband of an incumbent elective official.

SEC. 4. *Applicability.* - This Act shall be applicable to the next elections and to all subsequent elections thereafter.

SEC. 5. *Persons Covered; Prohibited Candidates.* - No person related within the second degree of consanguinity to an incumbent national elective official shall be allowed to hold national elective office. However, he or she may be allowed to hold local elective office.

No person related within the second degree of consanguinity to an incumbent local elective official shall be allowed to hold local elective office.

In all cases, no person related within the second degree of consanguinity to an incumbent elective official shall immediately succeed the latter's office by election, unless the incumbent elective official is ending his or her term of office within the same election year.

No person related within the second degree of consanguinity to an incumbent national elective official shall be allowed to hold office under the party-list system.

In the case of relatives where the election of two or more will result in a political dynasty relationship, the same shall likewise be prohibited under this Act.

SEC. 6. *Determination of Elected Candidates with Political Dynasty Relationship.* - Whenever it appears from the official canvass that two or more candidates elected to the same or different positions at the local or national level are related within the second degree of consanguinity and would hold office simultaneously, the Board of Canvassers, after recording this fact in its minutes, by resolution, shall hold a special public meeting to resolve the matter through the drawing of lots.

Before conducting the drawing of lots, the Board shall first determine whether the related candidates have voluntarily entered into an agreement as to who shall withdraw in the event that both are elected. If such an agreement exists, the Board shall abide by the terms of the agreement and proclaim the agreed-upon candidate.

In the absence of a voluntary agreement, the Board shall proceed to a drawing of lots among the candidates who are related within the second degree of consanguinity. The candidate favored by luck shall be officially proclaimed and shall have the right to assume office. The Board shall immediately issue a certificate of proclamation stating the name of the candidate favored by luck and the basis of the proclamation.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as depriving any candidate of the right to contest the election in accordance with existing laws.

SEC. 7. *Effect of Violation of Prohibition.* - The COMELEC shall, motu proprio or upon a verified petition of any interested party, initiate proceedings or act on any petition to cancel or annul any proclamation, or to suspend the assumption into office, made in violation of this Act.

The COMELEC shall be authorized to seek the assistance of the Philippine Statistics Authority in fulfilling its obligations under this Act. For this purpose, the provisions of Republic Act No. 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012 shall not apply.

Violation of this Act and the rules and regulations of the COMELEC issued to implement this Act shall also constitute an election offense punishable under the first and second paragraphs of Section 264 of Batas Pambansa Big. 881 or the Omnibus Election Code.

SEC. 8. *Rules and Regulations.* - The Commission on Elections shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any part of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions thereof shall remain valid and effective.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,