

TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE BILL No. 7308

Introduced by **REP. CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA-LIM**

AN ACT GRANTING CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY TO ELECTED OFFICIALS WHO HAVE SERVED A CUMULATIVE TERM OF AT LEAST SIX (6) YEARS IN PUBLIC OFFICE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution declares that appointments in the civil service shall be made according to merit and fitness, to be determined, as far as practicable, by competitive examinations.¹ At the same time, the Constitution and existing civil service laws recognize that merit and fitness may likewise be established through other means, such as relevant experience, demonstrated competence, and proven performance in public office.²

Elected officials who have served the people for a substantial period have been subjected to repeated public scrutiny through the electoral process and have shown their capability, integrity, and efficiency in the discharge of governmental functions. A cumulative service of at least six (6) years in elective positions, whether consecutive or non-consecutive, signifies sustained public trust and practical experience in legislation, policy-making, administration, and public accountability.³

This measure seeks to institutionalize the grant of Career Service Professional Eligibility to elected officials who have rendered such length of service, in recognition of their proven track record and in order to allow them, after the completion of their elective terms, to continue serving the government in the career service without the need to take the standard civil service examination, subject to existing qualification standards and rules.⁴

The proposed bill aims to further strengthen the professionalization of the bureaucracy by valuing actual and meaningful public service experience as a valid measure of merit and fitness, while preserving the authority of the Civil Service Commission to promulgate the necessary rules, regulations, and safeguards.⁵

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

¹1987 Constitution, Art. IX-B, Sec. 2(2).

²P.D. No. 807 (Civil Service Decree), as amended.

³1987 Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 1; Art. XI, Sec. 1.

⁴CSC Omnibus Rules on Appointments and Other Personnel Actions.

⁵1987 Constitution, Art. IX-B, Sec. 3.


CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA-LIM
DUMPER PTDA Party-List

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Elected Officials Career Service Eligibility Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to promote merit, integrity, and competence in the civil service. Long and continuous service in elective office demonstrates proven capability and experience in the performance of governmental functions and should be recognized as a valid basis for civil service eligibility.

SEC. 3. Grant of Civil Service Eligibility. – All elected officials who have completed a cumulative term of at least six (6) years in any elective position, whether consecutive or non-consecutive, shall be granted Career Service Professional Eligibility by the Civil Service Commission, subject to existing qualification standards and requirements.

SEC. 4. Coverage. – This Act shall cover all national and local elective officials, including but not limited to Members of the House of Representatives, Senators, Governors, Vice Governors, Mayors, Vice Mayors, and Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Sangguniang Panlungsod, and Sangguniang Bayan; *Provided, That* such elective official has no pending case before the Sandiganbayan or any court involving criminal offenses or acts of moral turpitude.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Civil Service Commission shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SEC. 6. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,