



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9142



INTRODUCED BY REP. JOSE “BONG” J. TEVES, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution declares that public office is a public trust, and that public officers must, at all times, be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency. Central to this principle is the need to eliminate conflicts of interest that may compromise the independence and impartiality of those who seek to govern.

Under existing laws, including Republic Act No. 3019 (Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act) and Republic Act No. 12009 (New Government Procurement Act), safeguards are in place to prevent public officials from engaging in transactions that may give rise to undue advantage, favoritism, or corruption. Similarly, Republic Act No. 6713 (Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees) mandates the avoidance of conflicts between public duty and private interests.

However, these safeguards largely take effect only upon assumption of office. There remains a critical gap at the level of candidacy, where individuals who maintain active interests in government contracts may seek elective positions while still benefiting from public funds through contractual relationships. This situation creates a serious risk of undue influence, policy capture, and erosion of public trust in the electoral process.

While Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 (Omnibus Election Code) provides grounds for disqualification of candidates, it does not explicitly require a categorical disclosure or prohibition concerning government *contractorship* at the time of filing a Certificate of Candidacy. As a result, voters are deprived of material information necessary to assess potential conflicts of interest among candidates.

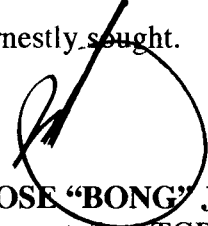
This proposed measure seeks to address this gap by requiring all candidates for elective public office to execute a sworn undertaking declaring that they are not government contractors within five years upon filing of Certificate of Candidacy and do not possess direct or indirect

financial interests in government contracts. The bill further provides mechanisms for verification, enforcement, and penalties for misrepresentation.

By institutionalizing transparency and accountability at the earliest stage of the electoral process, this measure strengthens existing legal frameworks, complements the disclosure principles embodied in the Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Worth (SALN), and reinforces the integrity of democratic institutions.

Ultimately, this bill promotes a level playing field in elections and ensures that those who seek public office are free from obligations or interests that may compromise their duty to serve the public good.

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



HON. JOSE "BONG" J. TEVES, JR.
Representative, TGP Party-List



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9142

INTRODUCED BY REP. JOSE “BONG” J. TEVES, JR.

AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIVE PUBLIC OFFICE TO EXECUTE
A SWORN UNDERTAKING OF NON-ENGAGEMENT IN GOVERNMENT
CONTRACTS WITHIN FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO THE FILING OF CERTIFICATE
OF CANDIDACY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF
BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 881 (OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE), AND
SUPPLEMENTING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9184 (GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT
REFORM ACT) AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3019 (ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT
PRACTICES ACT), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 “Electoral Conflict of Interest Prevention Act.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State ensure honesty, integrity, and transparency in the electoral process; Prevent conflicts of interest involving public office and government contracts; Uphold the constitutional principle that public office is a public trust; and Strengthen safeguards under Republic Act No. 6713 (Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees) against private interests interfering with public duties.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act:

a. **Government Contractor** – Any natural or juridical person who is a party to any procurement contract, subcontract, or agreement with the government, including those with financial or beneficial interest in such contracts.

b. **Candidate** – Any person who has filed a Certificate of Candidacy (COC) pursuant to Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 (Omnibus Election Code).

SECTION 4. Mandatory Sworn Undertaking. – All candidates for elective public office shall, upon filing their Certificate of Candidacy, execute a sworn undertaking declaring under oath that the candidate or any members of his or her immediate family have no interest in any government contracts within five years upon filing of Certificate of Candidacy.

The sworn undertaking shall be attached to and form an integral part of the Certificate of Candidacy. Failure to submit such undertaking shall be a ground for the denial of due course to or cancellation of the Certificate of Candidacy.

SECTION 5. Verification and Inter-Agency Coordination. – The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) shall verify compliance with this Act and may coordinate with the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Commission on Audit (COA); and other relevant agencies maintaining records of government contract.

SECTION 6. Prohibited Acts. – It shall be unlawful for any candidate to:

- a. Falsify or misrepresent any material fact in the sworn undertaking;
- b. Conceal any direct or indirect interest in a government contract; or
- c. Enter into any government contract after filing a Certificate of Candidacy.

SECTION 7. Penalties. – Without prejudice to liabilities under Republic Act No. 3019 (Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act) and other laws, any violation of this Act shall result in:

- a. Denial or cancellation of the Certificate of Candidacy pursuant to Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 (Omnibus Election Code);
- b. Disqualification from holding public office;
- c. Perpetual disqualification from public office; and
- d. Criminal liability punishable by imprisonment of not less than one (1) year but not more than six (6) years, and/or a fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱100,000.00).

SECTION 8. Post-Election Remedies. – Any elected official found to have violated this Act shall be subject to:

- a. Removal from office through appropriate proceedings under existing laws;
- b. Forfeiture of benefits and emoluments; and

c. Prosecution under applicable penal statutes.

SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from effectivity, the COMELEC, in coordination with the GPPB and other relevant agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations.

SECTION 10. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. 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,