

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 519

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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REGISTRATION UNIT
BILLS AND AMLS SERVICE

Introduced by Honorable Fredenil H. Castro

AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7166, ENTITLED "SYNCHRONIZED NATIONAL
AND LOCAL ELECTIONS AND FOR ELECTORAL REFORMS" AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

For many years now, our election laws have not been responsive to the dynamics of the changing times. One such statute in particular is Republic Act No. 7166 which provides for the authorized expenses of candidates and political parties during election campaign periods based on a per registered voter basis.

Section 13, paragraph (a) mandates that a candidate for the presidency and vice-presidency may only spend ten pesos (Php10.00) per registered voter. And for any other positions, the total of three pesos (Php3.00) per registered voter is allowable unless the candidate does not come from any political party and therefore without support from a particular machinery, in which case, the candidate may spend five pesos (Php5.00) per registered voter.

This is unrealistic and insufficient to say the least based on the many national and local elections in the past. The actual financial expenditures of any candidate mounting an election campaign are a violation of the present limitations. The law compels filing a report that is a distortion if not a suppression of the actual figures.

As such, Section 13, paragraph (a) of Republic Act 7166 is hereby proposed to be amended to be in keeping with the current Consumer Price Index (CPI) so as to encourage candidates to declare their actual campaign expenses in the interest of transparency.

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


FREDENIL H. CASTRO

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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HOUSE BILL NO. 519

Introduced by the **HONORABLE FREDENIL H. CASTRO**

AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7166, ENTITLED "SYNCHRONIZED NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS AND FOR ELECTORAL REFORMS" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 13 paragraph (a) of Republic Act 7166 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 13. *Authorized Expenses of Candidates and Political Parties.*- The [aggregate] amount [that] a candidate or registered political party may spend [for] **DURING THE** election campaign shall be as follows:

(a) For candidates.- **FIFTY PESOS (P50.00)** [Ten pesos (P10.00)] for President; **THIRTY FIVE PESOS (P35.00)** [and] for Vice-President [;] **AND SENATORIAL CANDIDATES FOR EVERY REGISTERED VOTER; AND FOR CONGRESSMAN AND OTHER LOCAL CANDIDATES FOR PROVINCES, CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES OTHER CANDIDATES, THIRTY PESOS (P30.00)** [three pesos (p3.00)] for every voter currently registered in the constituency where he filed his certificate of candidacy; *Provided,* That a candidate without any political party and without support from any political party may be allowed to spend **THIRTY-FIVE PESOS (P35.00)** [(P5.00)] for every such voter; and

SEC. 2. Separability Clause. - If any provisions or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional such declaration of unconstitutionality will not affect the other provisions of this Act.

SEC. 3. Amending and Repealing Clause.- Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 specifically Section 100 and 101 thereof and all other laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations or other issuances, or any part thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 4. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of publication in full in at least two (2) national papers of general circulation.

Approved,