

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 7746



Introduced by Hon. Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo

AN ACT
CREATING AN ELECTRONIC VOTERS REGISTRATION SYSTEM,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8189, ALSO
KNOWN AS "THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION ACT OF 1996"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

One of the basic rights of a Filipino Citizen that the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides is the right of suffrage. This allows citizens to exercise their political right to elect the public officers who will lead and govern them.

The government has continuously campaigned for the protection of this right and has relentlessly encouraged people to exercise voting as one of their civic duties. However, with the ongoing health crisis that the country is currently experiencing, various challenges continue to emerge that may impede the participation of many individuals in the coming election.

COVID19 Pandemic has affected the mobility of people and the safety of human interaction. This consequently impacted the existing systems in our government agencies and has compelled many of our institutions to be creative and develop effective alternative systems that are sensitive and responsive to the current needs and limitations of the community.

The objective of this bill is to equip the Commission on Elections with a strategy that can help promote the utilization of available national resources in order to ensure that, notwithstanding the circumstances, the State is able to safeguard the rights of its citizens.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Peter 'Onyx' D. Crisologo".

ANTHONY PETER "ONYX" D. CRISOLOGO
Representative
First District, Quezon City

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

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SECTION 1. **Short Title-** This Act shall also be known as the “Electronic
Voters Registration Act of 2020.”

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SECTION 2. **Reiteration of Policy-** It is hereby reiterated that “suffrage may
be exercised by all citizens of the Philippines not otherwise disqualified by law, who
are at least eighteen years of age, and who shall have resided in the Philippines for
at least one year, and in the place wherein they propose to vote, for at least six months
immediately preceding the election. No literacy, property, or other substantive
requirement shall be imposed on the exercise of suffrage.” (Section 1, Article V,
1987 Philippine Constitution)

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SECTION 3. **Additional provision to RA 8189, otherwise known as The
Voter’s Registration Act of 1996”** is hereby added to read as follows:

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*“SECTION 10-A. **Online Registration of Voters - An alternative
electronic mode of registration shall be developed in response to
potential national critical situations that may restrict the movement of
people and the conduct of personal transaction. This shall only be used
temporarily and only when the country is declared under a national
emergency during the period of registration.***

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*The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) shall implement a
security system that allows the proper verification of the identification
of each applicant, and require them to submit the following documents:*

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- a. Two (2) valid government issued Identification
Cards with photo and signature;*
 - b. Scanned legible left and right thumbmarks;*
 - c. Three (3) specimen signatures; and*

51 *d. 2x2 photo taken within three months prior to*
52 *registration.*

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54 *However, in compliance with RA 10367, otherwise known as An*
55 *Act Providing For Mandatory Biometrics Voting Registration, all*
56 *individuals who temporarily registered online shall be required to*
57 *appear personally at the nearest COMELEC office to capture their*
58 *biometrics after the government lifts the national emergency*
59 *declaration. Failure to appear ninety (90) days after the declaration of*
60 *the government will nullify the temporary registration of the individual*
61 *and shall be required to repeat the application for registration*
62 *process.”*

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64 **SECTION 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations** - The Commission on
65 Elections, in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications
66 Technology, and the Department of Interior and Local Government shall create the
67 implementing rules and regulation of this Act thirty (30) days after its approval.
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69 **SECTION 5. Separability Clause** - If any of the sections of this Act is held
70 invalid, all other provisions not affected shall remain valid.
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72 **SECTION 6. Repealing Clause** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules
73 and regulations, or other issuances or parts thereof, that are inconsistent with the
74 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
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76 **SECTION 7. Effectivity** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
77 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
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79 *Approved,*
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