

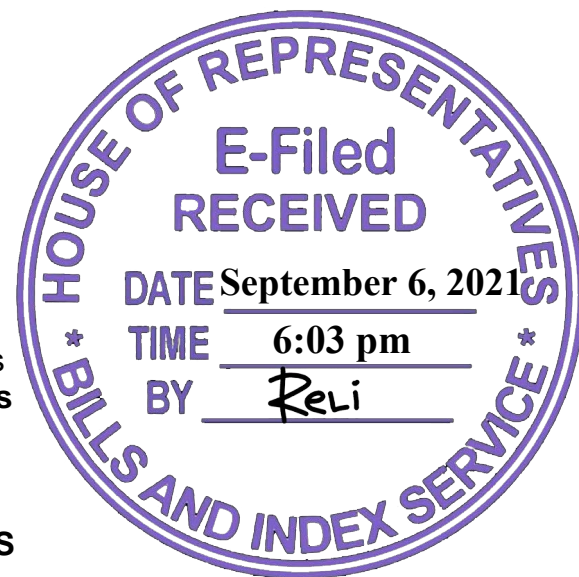


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 10161

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ



EXPLANATORY NOTE

The right to suffrage is a constitutionally enshrined right of all Filipinos not otherwise disqualified by law. This right enables the citizens to take part in the selection of the people that will be elected in our government.

Registration is an essential part of the exercise of the right to suffrage. Republic Act 8189 or the Voter's Registration Act of 1996 sets forth the method of registration in the Philippines in order to establish a clean, complete, permanent, and updated list of voters.

Section 9 of R.A. 8189 enumerates the qualifications of those who can register to vote. Consequently, the residency requirement seems to be lenient that it has become a tool that has created an influx of flying voters which ultimately affects the integrity of the elections. There is not enough measures to validate whether or not a person who registers in a particular city has indeed satisfied the residency requirement set forth by law.

This Bill seeks to amend Section 9 of R.A. 8189 into becoming more stringent in the residency requirement. This shall require a registrant to present proof of residence in order to ensure that he/she has satisfied the residency requirement in addition to the proof of identity that is also required to be shown.

Furthermore, this Bill seeks to omit paragraph (d) of Section 27 thereof which automatically deactivates the registration of a person who

has not been able to vote in two (2) successive preceding regular elections. The intention behind this amendment is to consider that each person are confronted with different circumstances and the failure to vote in two (2) successive elections may be by reasons not attributable to said person and for that, automatic deactivation of registration is quite unwarranted.

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


ERIC OLIVAREZ



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1
2 **“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 9 AND 27 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.**
3 **8189 OR THE VOTER’S REGISTRATION ACT OF 1996”**

4 *Be it enacted in the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Republic of the*
5 *Philippines in Congress assembled:*

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 9 of Republic Act No. 8189 or the voter’s
7 Registration Act of 1996 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 **“Section 9. Who may Register.** – *All citizens of the*
9 *Philippines not otherwise disqualified by law who are*
10 *at least eighteen (18) years of age, and who shall*
11 *have resided in the Philippines for at least one (1)*
12 *year, and in the place wherein they propose to vote,*
13 *for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the*
14 *election, may register as a voter. PROVIDED, THAT*
15 *IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS SET*
16 *FORTH IN THIS SECTION, A PERSON WHO SHALL*
17 *REGISTER TO VOTE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO*
18 *PRESENT A VALID PROOF OF RESIDENCE.*

19 *VALID PROOF OF RESIDENCE AS USED IN THIS*
20 *ACT SHALL REFER TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:*

1 a. TAX DECLARATION OR RECEIPT OF
2 PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAX, OR A
3 CERTIFICATION FROM THE LANDOWNER
4 OR LESSOR OF RESIDENTIAL UNIT,
5 APARTMENT, CONDOMINIUM, DORMITORY
6 OR SIMILAR DWELLING UNITS WHERE THE
7 REGISTRANT IS RESIDING AT THE TIME OF
8 REGISTRATION;

9 b. A RECENT HOUEHOLD UTILITY BILL
10 UNDER HIS.HER NAMEM WHICH INCLUDE
11 BUT NOT LIMITED TO GAS, ELECTRIC,
12 MOBILE, OR TELEPHONE, CABLE,
13 INTERNET OR CREDIT CARD BILL; OR

14 c. AFFIDAVIT OF AT LEAST TWO WITNESSES
15 WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF THE PLACE
16 WHERE THE REGISTRANT PROPOSES TO
17 VOTE, THAT THE RESGISTRANT IS A
18 RESIDENT OF THE PLACE;

19 X X X “

20 **SECTION 2.** Section 27 of the same Act is hereby amended to read
21 as follows:

22 **“Section 27. Deactivation of Registration.. –**

23 X X X

24 *[(d) Any person who did not vote in the two (2)*
25 *successive preceding regular elections as shown by*
26 *their voting records. For this purpose, regular elections*
27 *do not include the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK)*
28 *elections.]*

29 X X X”

1 **SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.*** – All acts, executive orders,
2 memorandum circulars/guidelines and other issuances or parts thereof,
3 which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified
4 accordingly.

5 **SECTION 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
6 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers
7 of general circulation

8 **APPROVED.**