



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2970



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**Introduced by Representatives Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Andrew Julian K. Romualdez and Jude A. Acidre**

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**AN ACT  
INCREASING THE AUTHORIZED CAMPAIGN EXPENSES OF CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL PARTIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7166, ENTITLED, “AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SYNCHRONIZED NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS AND FOR OTHER ELECTORAL REFORMS, AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 7166, otherwise known as the *Act Providing for Synchronized National and Local Elections and for Electoral Reforms, Authorizing Appropriations therefor, and for Other Purposes*, provides for the authorized expenses of candidates and political parties, ranging from five pesos (₱5.00) to ten pesos (₱10.00) per voter currently registered in the constituency where the president-candidate, vice president-candidate, and other candidates filed their certificate of candidacy. However, it should be noted that this law was enacted in 1991, and since then, the value of the Philippine Peso has changed significantly and such limitations on the expenses are not anymore suitable nor applicable in the modern-day.

The existing cap on authorized campaign expenses poses a problem for candidates as inflation affects the prices of their operational services as well as the necessary materials, advertisements, and even transportation expenses. Aside from those, the corresponding salaries for the human resources necessary for their campaign operations has also increased.

To address these concerns, this bill seeks to increase the authorized election campaign expenses of candidates and political parties.

This bill was filed by Representative Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, Rep. Olga Kho, and Rep. Ricardo Kho in the Nineteenth Congress, where it was approved on third and final reading by the House of Representatives.

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



**YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ**



**ANDREW JULIAN K. ROMUALDEZ**



**JUDE A. ACIDRE**



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

**SECTION 1.** Section 13 of Republic Act No. 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 election campaign shall be as follows:

(a) For candidates – [Ten] **FIFTY** pesos [(P10.00)] **(P50.00)** for President and **FORTY PESOS (P40.00) FOR** Vice-President; and [for other candidates, Three pesos (P3.00)] **THIRTY PESOS (P30.00) FOR SENATOR, DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, GOVERNOR, VICE-GOVERNOR, BOARD MEMBER,**

**MAYOR, VICE-MAYOR, COUNCILOR, AND PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVE** for every voter currently registered in the constituency where [he] **THE CANDIDATE** filed [his] **THE** Certificate of candidacy[: *Provided*, That, a candidate without any political party and without support from any political party may be allowed to spend Five Pesos (P5.00) for every such voter]; and

(b) For political parties – [Five] **THIRTY** pesos [(P5.00)] **(P30.00)** for every voter currently registered in the constituency or constituencies where it has official candidates.

“Any provision of the law to the contrary notwithstanding, any contribution in cash or in kind to any candidate or political party or coalition of parties for campaign purposes, duly reported to the Commission, shall not be subject to the payment of any [gift] **DONOR’S** tax.”

**SEC. 2. THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS SHALL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS, THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY, MAKE THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF AUTHORIZED CAMPAIGN EXPENSES PER REGISTERED VOTER AS PROVIDED IN THIS ACT BASED ON THE ENSUING NATIONAL INFLATION RATE AND CONSUMER PRICE INDEX.**

**SEC. 3.** The Commission on Elections shall, within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, promulgate such rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

**SEC. 4.** If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder or any provision thereof not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 5.** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 6.** This Act shall take effect immediately after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,