

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )

'22 AUG 15 P 4 :34

**SENATE**

S.B. No. 1157

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

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**AN ACT  
INCREASING THE AUTHORIZED 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 ELECTORAL  
REFORMS, AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

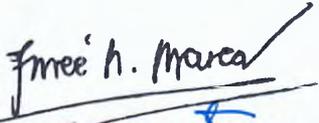
It has been well over thirty years since the enactment of Republic Act No. 7166, otherwise known as "An Act Providing for Synchronized National and Local Elections and for Electoral Reforms, Authorizing Appropriations Therefor, and for Other Purposes", which set the expenses of candidates and political parties.

Since the country has been experiencing a 259.5% increase in prices of commodities from the time of the effectivity of R.A. No. 7166, candidates had difficulty in trying to limit their spending in accordance with law because prices of materials and their printing and reproduction, mass media advertisements, transportation, and other operational expenses have noticeably increased in a span of almost three decades. Moreover, the value of P 1.00 in 1991 is now equivalent to P 3.60.

The best way to address the extremely outdated allowable limits for campaign spending is to increase the amounts provided by law. This bill provides for the increase in the authorized aggregate amount for campaign expenditure of candidates and political parties for every voter currently registered in the constituency where the certificate of candidacy was filed. It will be beneficial not only to the candidates but also to the voting public since the increase in the allowable campaign expenditure may

lead to better voter's education and awareness of the background and program of government of the candidates. Also, the amendment of the last paragraph of Section 13 of R.A. No. 7166 merely substituted the term "gift tax" with "donor's tax" which is the proper term as used in the National Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**



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**REFORMS, AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER**  
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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

1           **SECTION 1.** Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7166 is hereby amended to read  
2 as follows:

3  
4           "SECTION 13. *Authorized Expenses of Candidates and Political*  
5 *Parties.* – The aggregate amount that a candidate or registered political  
6 party may spend for election campaign shall be as follows:

- 7  
8           (a) For candidates. – [~~Ten pesos (P10.00)~~] **TWENTY PESOS (P**  
9 **20.00)** for President and Vice-President; **FOR SENATORIAL**  
10 **CANDIDATES, FIVE PESOS (P 5.00)**; and for other candidates,  
11 [~~Three Pesos (P3.00)~~] **TWENTY PESOS (P 20.00)** for every voter  
12 currently registered in the constituency where he filed his certificate  
13 of candidacy: Provided, That a candidate without any political party  
14 and without support from any political party may be allowed to  
15 spend [~~Five Pesos (P5.00)~~] **THIRTY PESOS (P 30.00)** for every  
16 such voter; [~~and~~] **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT IF THE**  
17 **AUTHORIZED EXPENSE IS LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED**

1 THOUSAND PESOS (P 500,000) AFTER MULTIPLYING THE  
2 PRESCRIBED AMOUNT PER VOTER TO THE TOTAL NUMBER  
3 OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN A CANDIDATE'S  
4 CONSTITUENCY, THE CANDIDATE SHALL HAVE THE  
5 OPTION OF SPENDING MORE THAN THE PRESCRIBED  
6 AMOUNT BUT IN NO CASE SHALL THE TOTAL AMOUNT  
7 EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P 500,000).  
8

9 (b) For political parties **NOT PARTICIPATING IN PARTY-**  
10 **LIST ELECTIONS.** – [~~Five pesos (P5.00)~~] **TEN PESOS (P 10.00)**  
11 for every voter currently registered in the constituency or  
12 constituencies where it has official candidates[.]; **AND FIVE**  
13 **PESOS (P 5.00) FOR SECTORAL PARTIES, SECTORAL**  
14 **ORGANIZATIONS, OR POLITICAL PARTIES**  
15 **PARTICIPATING IN THE PARTY-LIST ELECTIONS.**

16  
17 Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, any  
18 contribution in cash or in kind to any candidate, [ø] political party,  
19 [ø] coalition of parties, **SECTORAL PARTIES, SECTORAL**  
20 **ORGANIZATIONS, OR COALITION OF SECTORAL PARTIES**  
21 for campaign purposes, duly reported to the Commission shall not  
22 be subject to the payment of any [~~gift tax~~] **DONOR'S TAX:**  
23 **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT UNUTILIZED OR EXCESS**  
24 **CAMPAIGN FUNDS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO INCOME TAX,**  
25 **UNLESS THE CANDIDATE, POLITICAL PARTY, OR PARTY-**  
26 **LIST GROUP RETURNS THE UNUTILIZED OR EXCESS**  
27 **CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO ONE OR MORE DONORS: PROVIDED,**  
28 **FINALLY, THAT EVERY PERSON MAKING ELECTION**  
29 **CONTRIBUTIONS NOT EXCEEDING TEN THOUSAND PESOS**  
30 **(P 10,000) SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE REPORTORIAL**  
31 **REQUIREMENT IMPOSED IN THE PRECEDING SECTION OF**  
32 **THIS CODE. HOWEVER, THE CANDIDATE, PARTY-LIST**  
33 **GROUP, OR POLITICAL PARTY RECEIVING SUCH**  
34 **CONTRIBUTION SHALL STILL INCLUDE SUCH DE MINIMIS**  
35 **CONTRIBUTION IN ITS RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS AS**  
36 **MENTIONED IN SECTION 106 (B) OF BATAS PAMBANSA**  
37 **BILANG 881.**

38  
39 **EVERY SIX YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS**  
40 **ACT, THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE**

1           **BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS, THE NATIONAL**  
2           **ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND THE**  
3           **PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY, SHALL REVIEW**  
4           **AND, IF NECESSARY, RECOMMEND TO CONGRESS NEW**  
5           **AMOUNTS OF AUTHORIZED EXPENSES UNDER THIS**  
6           **SECTION BASED ON THE OFFICIAL CONSUMER PRICE**  
7           **INDEX.”**

8           **SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.*** – Should any part of this Act be declared  
9           unconstitutional, the other parts not affected thereby shall remain valid and effective.

10           **SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or portions  
11           thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed,  
12           amended, or modified accordingly.

13           **SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
14           publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*