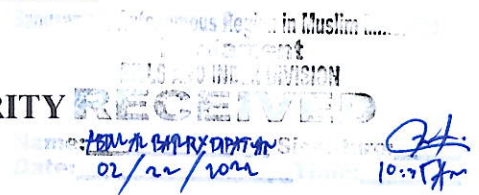


Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Cotabato City

BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY

Third Regular Session

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 662



Introduced by:

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MASTURA

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT TO THE IMMEDIATE PASSAGE
OF SENATE BILL NO. 1316, ENTITLED COMELEC OFFICES
REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2020 THAT SEEKS TO STRENGTHEN THE
FIELD OFFICES OF THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (COMELEC)**

WHEREAS, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) is one of the independent Constitutional Commissions expressly created under the 1987 Constitution, whose primary duty is to enforce and administer election laws, so that we may enjoy an honest, orderly, and peaceful elections;

WHEREAS, the improvement in our election systems, the ever-growing increase in the number of the registered voters, the introduction of the mandatory continuing registration system, and the other increasing administrative tasks of the Commission require an increased or strengthened workforce or personnel who are covered and protected by civil service laws and regulations;

WHEREAS, despite this constitutional independence, the power to create offices remains as one of the legislative functions of Congress;

WHEREAS, as a result, the Commission's power of appointment of competent civil service employees is restricted by the offices created by Congress; hence, the Commission is left with no better alternative but to hire contractual employees, and issue job orders that threaten to undermine the rationale for civil service employment envisioned by our Constitution and the laws;

WHEREAS, the present system of hiring contractual employees of the Commission is also prejudicial to the hired employees due to the disparity between their tasks and the compensation that the Commission can offer them;

WHEREAS, this also puts COMELEC employees on contractual employment and job orders in a situation less than the other employees of the government in violation of the long-standing principle of equal protection under the Constitution;

WHEREAS, in the State's pursuit for public officials and employees to be at all times accountable to the people and for them to discharge their duties with utmost responsibility, integrity, competence, and loyalty, act with patriotism and justice, the State has the reciprocal burden to give these employees what are rightfully due to them;

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives, on 16 January 2021, approved on final reading House Bill No. 10579, seeking to strengthen field offices of the COMELEC by, among others, increasing the number of personnel in the field offices of the Commission;

WHEREAS, an equivalent Senate version, the Senate Bill No. 1316, a proposed act sponsored by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr. entitled COMELEC Offices Reorganization Act of 2020, is still pending in the Committee of the Senate;

WHEREAS, the Senate Bill No. 1316 similarly seeks to strengthen the field offices of the COMELEC by creating certain positions, reclassifying existing ones, and upgrading their salaries, amending for the purpose Section 53 of Batas Pambansa 881, or the Omnibus Election Code, as amended, and providing funds therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to express support to the immediate passage of Senate Bill No. 1316, entitled Comelec Offices Reorganization Act of 2020 that seeks to strengthen the field offices of the COMELEC.

RESOLVED, FINALLY, that copies of this resolution be furnished to the Office of the Senate President, the House of Representatives, and the Office of the Chief Minister.

ADOPTED, _____.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Mustapha Loong", is written over the printed name below. The signature is stylized with large loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

MP ENGR. DON MUSTAPHA ARBISON LOONG, JD, MPSA, CESE
Member of the Parliament