

Republic of the Philippines Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY PARLIAMENT



Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 412

RESOLUTION URGING THE BANGSAMORO INFORMATION OFFICE TO DEVISE AN INFORMATION, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELECTORATES OF THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE BANGSAMORO ELECTORAL CODE

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2018, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed into law a landmark legislation, Republic Act No. 11054, otherwise known as the "Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (OLBARMM);"

WHEREAS, Section 2, Article IV of the OLBARMM provides that in the exercise of its right to self-governance, the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region is free to pursue its political, economic, social, and cultural development as provided for in the Organic Law;

WHEREAS, Section 3, Article V of the OLBARMM provides that the Bangsamoro Government shall exercise the power expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance and those which are essential to the promotion of general welfare. Within its territorial jurisdiction, the Bangsamoro Government shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology, encourage and support the development of appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, improve public morals, enhance economic prosperity and social justice, promote full employment among its residents, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of its inhabitants;

WHEREAS, Section 2, Article XVI of the OLBARMM states that the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) shall be the interim government in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region during the transition period;

WHEREAS, as enshrined in the same Article, Section 4(a) of the same law mandates the BTA to ensure, among others, the enactment of priority legislations such as the Bangsamoro Administrative Code, Bangsamoro Revenue Code, Bangsamoro Electoral Code, Bangsamoro Local Government Code, Bangsamoro Civil Service Code, and Bangsamoro Educational Code consistent with powers and prerogatives vested in the Bangsamoro Government by the OLBARMM;

WHEREAS, the passing of the priority codes is necessary for the smooth operation of the Bangsamoro Government;

WHEREAS, from October 2022 to January 2023, public consultations were held in Manila, Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Cotabato City, and the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Special Geographic Area to ensure that all stakeholders were involved in the legislation process of the Bangsamoro Electoral Code;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Parliament unanimously approved and adopted on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, the Bangsamoro Autonomy Act No. 35, or the Bangsamoro Electoral Code of 2023;

WHEREAS, this measure was approved with sixty-four (64) affirmative votes, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstentions;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Electoral Code is a landmark legislation that prescribes the structural, functional, and procedural principles in the conduct of elections, plebiscites, initiatives, referenda, and recall proceedings and encourages the formation of genuinely principled political parties in the Bangsamoro Region;

WHEREAS, this Code shall guide the conduct of a free, orderly, honest, peaceful, and credible election through fair election practices, and uphold the right of the Bangsamoro people to effective and rational participation at all levels of social, political, and economic decision-making;

WHEREAS, the first regular election for the Bangsamoro Government will be held synchronously with the 2025 national and local elections;

WHEREAS, in order to achieve a successful and democratic 2025 elections within the Bangsamoro Region, the electorate must understand their rights, responsibilities, and their political system, alongside being sufficiently knowledgeable in exercising their suffrage (right to vote);

WHEREAS, a comprehensive approach in disseminating information regarding the provisions of the Bangsamoro Electoral Code is in order to raise the level of awareness of the electorate, especially the disadvantaged and vulnerable sectors;

WHEREAS, institutionalizing the information, education, and communication (IEC) campaign on the provisions of the Bangsamoro Electoral Code through the provision of informational materials, seminars, orientations to the public, and strengthening the education campaign can help instill knowledge and disseminate information about the Electoral Code to the general public;

WHEREAS, the IEC campaign, as proposed in this measure, can have a significant impact on the future of the region;

WHEREAS, ministries and other offices are encouraged to support the dissemination of the IEC campaign led by the Bangsamoro Information Office (BIO):

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament, To urge the Bangsamoro Information Office to devise an information, education, and communication campaign for the electorates of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region on the provisions of the Bangsamoro Electoral Code.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, To forward this Resolution to the Bangsamoro Information Office, for information and appropriate action.

ADOPTED, *Rabi Al-Akhir* 08, 1445/October 23, 2023.

Certified Correct:

PROT. BARY B. ANGKAI

Attested:

ATTY. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG Speaker

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