



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 4241

BY REPRESENTATIVES TEODORO, CASIÑO, COLMENARES, ILAGAN, MARIANO,
PALATINO, DE JESUS AND TINIO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 662

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING TO QUALIFIED MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Early Voting for
2 Media Act of 2011”.

3 §EC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – All Filipino citizens at least eighteen
4 (18) years old, unless disqualified by law, are accorded the right of suffrage.
5 The State ensures equal opportunity to all in order to exercise this fundamental
6 right. This includes special cases wherein citizens, carrying out public service,
7 cannot cast their votes on election day.

8 SEC. 3. *Coverage.* – Any registered voter who, by reason of his/her
9 duties as member of the media, cannot cast his/her vote on election day may
10 vote in his/her municipality or city prior to the date set for the elections.

11 SEC. 4. *Requirements.* – Thirty (30) days before the election, officers
12 of media establishments shall submit to the Commission on Elections
13 (COMELEC) a list of members of their media staff who will be assigned away

1 from their polling place and will not be able to vote on the day of the election
2 but desire to exercise their right to vote. Upon verification by the COMELEC,
3 media practitioners, all of whom must be registered voters, must fill out an
4 application form for early voting.

5 SEC. 5. *Voting Procedures.* – Those qualified to vote may cast his/her
6 ballot in the Office of the Municipal/City Election Registrar where he/she is
7 registered during office hours within fourteen (14) working days before the day
8 of elections. He/She shall be allowed to vote for as many positions available
9 as any other qualified voter.

10 SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The COMELEC shall
11 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

12 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The budget needed to implement the
13 provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
14 Act.

15 SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision of this Act be
16 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the validity or constitutionality of the
17 other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

18 SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, letters of instructions,
19 resolutions, orders, ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the
20 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

21 SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
22 its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,