

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



'22 JUL -7 P5 :07

**SENATE**  
S. No. 201

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA**

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**AN ACT**  
**AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 7941, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PARTY-LIST**  
**SYSTEM ACT**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The party-list system of registered national, regional, and sectoral parties or organizations is mandated under Article VI, Section 5 (1) and (2) of the 1987 Constitution, and Republic Act 7941, otherwise known as the Party List System Act, enacted on March 3, 1995.

The party list system's noble purpose under the Constitution is to provide a wider range of representation to a greater number of people in our society.

Through the years, however, this democratic vehicle has become a distorted instrument of policymaking. Instead of serving its constitutional goal in providing effective and representative governance for the greater welfare of our people, it has become a tool for abuse and exploitation. Thus, there have been party list groups which have successfully entered the Halls of the House of Representatives which perpetuate radical, and oppressive principles in their platform of governance.

Regardless of their political ideology, party list groups should effectively participate in the law-making process in the legislative branch of our Government. However, there is a grave concern if the party list group's main agenda is to infiltrate

government with revolutionary principles that capitalize on violence and dissent among the people.

The constitutional intent in establishing the party list system is to enhance democratic governance that will nurture the well-being of the Nation. This should be preserved and protected. Hence, any deviation from this goal should be curbed. The Party List system should therefore be purged of all its infirmities.

In line with this goal, this bill proposes to amend Section 6 of RA 7941 by expanding the grounds for the refusal and/or cancellation of registration of any national, regional or sectoral party, organization or coalition as Party List group. The proposed measure includes as a ground for disqualification the following: the group seeks the participation of children, youth, and other disadvantaged members of our society in committing violent and unlawful acts; and the group directly or indirectly participates in acts detrimental to the best interest of the government, and association to rebels or those designated or proscribed terrorist person or groups under Republic Act No. 11479 or the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020.

It is time to finally put an end to the exploitation of the Party List System. Let us restore the dignity of this system as originally intended by the framers of the 1987 Constitution.

Approval of this bill is therefore earnestly requested.


  
**RONALD "BATO" M. DELA ROSA**

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**SYSTEM ACT**

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

1 Section 1. Section 6 of Republic Act 7941 is hereby amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 "Section 6. *Refusal and/or Cancellation of Registration.* The  
4 COMELEC may, *motu proprio* or upon verified complaint of any interested  
5 party, refuse or cancel, after due notice and hearing, the registration of  
6 any national, regional or sectoral party, organization or coalition on any of  
7 the following grounds:

- 8 (1) It is a religious sect or denomination, organization or association,  
9 organized for religious purposes;
- 10 (2) It advocates violence, or unlawful means to seek its goal;
- 11 (3) It is a foreign party or organization;
- 12 (4) It is receiving support from any foreign government, foreign political  
13 party, foundation, organization, whether directly or through any of its  
14 officers or members or indirectly through third parties for partisan  
15 election purposes;
- 16 (5) It violates or fails to comply with laws, rules or regulations relating to  
17 elections;

- 1 (6) It declares untruthful statements in its petition;  
2 (7) It has ceased to exist for at least one (1) year; [øø]  
3 (8) It fails to participate in the last two (2) preceding elections or fails to  
4 obtain at least two per centum (2%) of the votes cast under the party-  
5 list system in the two (2) preceding elections for the constituency in  
6 which it has registered[±];  
7 (9) **IT SEEKS THE PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND**  
8 **MEMBERS OF OTHER DISADVANTAGED SECTORS IN**  
9 **COMMITTING VIOLENT AND UNLAWFUL ACTS; OR**  
10 (10) **IT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY PARTICIPATES IN ACTS**  
11 **DETRIMENTAL TO THE BEST INTERST OF THE GOVERNMENT,**  
12 **TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT OR DIMINISH ITS**  
13 **POWERS, OR TO BE ASSOCIATED BY ANY MEANS TO REBELS OR**  
14 **OR PROSCRIBED TERRORIST PERSONS OR GROUPS UNDER**  
15 **REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11479, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-**  
16 **TERRORISM ACT OF 2020".**  
17

18 Section 2. *Rules and Regulations.* The COMELEC shall promulgate the  
19 necessary rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes  
20 of this Act.

21 Section 3. *Separability Clause.* If any part of this Act is held invalid or  
22 unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions thereof shall remain valid and  
23 effective.

24 Section 4. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and  
25 regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby  
26 repealed.

27 Section 5. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
28 publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,