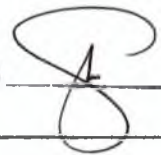


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



23 JAN 25 A11 :06

SENATE
S.B. No. 1762

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by: **Senator Raffy T. Tulfo**

**AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF PLASTIC POSTERS DURING THE
CAMPAIGN SEASON, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECTION 3 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS FAIR
ELECTION ACT**

Explanatory Note

Philippine elections, be it local or national, argumentatively brings controversial fury to all strata. People form their own groups dedicated into supporting their candidate by initiating campaign rallies and posting banners and posters in public spaces bearing the name and face of their prime candidates.

Understanding how highly powerful and influential the visual cues are, the running political parties use these physical campaign paraphernalia to persuade their electorates into advancing them in the upcoming elections.

Sadly, its effects span way beyond its intended period of usage. According to the Eco-Waste Coalition, the Philippines generates more trash during election years. This year, collected garbage from elections is 254 tons or around 20% higher compared to the 2016 national elections. These tarpaulins mostly end up in landfills and sometimes in bodies of water too, causing pollution and flood. They do not degrade quickly and heavy duty tarpaulins may take 1000 years to decompose.

Apart from that, these plastic posters also contain cadmium which according to the World Health Organization, exerts toxic effects on the renal, skeletal and respiratory systems, and is classified as a human carcinogen.

Last year, the Eco-Waste coalition commissioned laboratory tests on the campaign posters of the political aspirants. Based on the results, the multicolored

coatings of the campaign posters contained cadmium ranging from 607 to 775 parts per million. The white plastic sheet had cadmium between 384 to 546 ppm.

The group said these levels detected by SGS, a leading global testing company, were way above the 100 ppm limit for cadmium in plastics under European Union laws and World Health Organization (WHO) standards.

At present, there is no bill limiting the use of these plastic posters. In an effort to protect the public health and help preserve a cleaner earth for the future generation, we propose to consider the prohibition of the use of plastic posters during political campaigns.

In view of the foregoing, the urgent passing of this bill is earnestly sought.



Raffy T. Tulfo

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

1 Section 1. Section 3 of the Fair Election Act is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 "Sec. 3. Lawful Election Propaganda. – Election propaganda whether on
4 television, cable television, radio, newspapers or any other medium is hereby
5 allowed for all registered political parties, national, regional, sectoral parties or
6 organizations participating under the party-list elections and for all bona fide
7 candidates seeking national and local elective positions subject to the limitation
8 on authorized expenses of candidates and political parties, observance of truth
9 in advertising and to the supervision and regulation by the Commission on
10 Elections (COMELEC). For the purpose of this Act, lawful election propaganda
11 shall include:

12 3.1. Pamphlets, leaflets, cards, decals, stickers or other written or
13 printed materials the size of which does not exceed eight and one-half
14 inches in width and fourteen inches in length;

15 3.2. Handwritten or printed letters urging voters to vote for or against
16 any particular political party or candidate for public office;

1 3.3. Cloth, paper or cardboard posters whether framed, or posted, with
2 an area not exceeding two (2) feet by three (3) feet, except that, at the
3 site and on the occasion of a public meeting or rally, or in announcing
4 the holding of said meeting or rally, streamers not exceeding three (3)
5 feet by eight (8) feet in size, shall be allowed: Provided, That said
6 streamers may be displayed five (5) days before the date of the meeting
7 or rally and shall be removed within twenty-four (24) hours after said
8 meeting or rally;

9 3.4. Paid advertisements in print or broadcast media: Provided, That the
10 advertisements shall follow the requirements set forth in Section 4 of
11 this Act; and

12 3.5. All other forms of election propaganda not prohibited by the
13 Omnibus Election Code or this Act. "

14 Section 2. Sec. 4. Requirements for Published or Printed and Broadcast
15 Election Propaganda. –

16 4.1. Any newspaper, newsletter, news weekly, gazette or magazine
17 advertising, posters, pamphlets, comic books, circulars, handbills,
18 bumper stickers, streamers, simple list of candidates or any published or
19 printed political matter and any broadcast of election propaganda by
20 television or radio for or against a candidate or group of candidates to
21 any public office shall bear and be identified by the reasonably legible or
22 audible words "political advertisement paid for," followed by the true and
23 correct name and address of the candidate or party for whose benefit
24 the election propaganda was printed or aired.

25 4.2. If the broadcast is given free of charge by the radio or television
26 station, it shall be identified by the words "airtime for this broadcast was
27 provided free of charge by" followed by the true and correct name and
28 address of the broadcast entity.

29 4.3. Print, broadcast or outdoor advertisements donated to the
30 candidate or political party shall not be printed, published, broadcast or

1 exhibited without the written acceptance by the said candidate or
2 political party. Such written acceptance shall be attached to the
3 advertising contract and shall be submitted to the COMELEC as provided
4 in Subsection 6.3 hereof.

5 4.4. NON-USAGE OF PLASTIC POSTERS.”

6 Sec 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations — Within ninety (90) days from
7 the approval of this Act, the Commission on Elections shall promulgate the
8 implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

9 Sec 3. Separability Clause. — If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is
10 declared to be unconstitutional or Invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof
11 which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force or effect.

12 Sec 4. Repealing Clause. — All laws; decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
13 parts thereof which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are
14 hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

15 Sec 5. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
16 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general
17 circulation.

Approved,