

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 249, July 20, 1973]

AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 229 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING MILITARY PERSONNEL, TO VOTE IN THEIR PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

WHEREAS, barangay democracy derives its strength from the participation of as many qualified citizens as possible in referendums and/or consultations;

WHEREAS, in the referendum of July 27, military personnel, government officials and employees, including those in government-owned or controlled corporations who are registered in the provinces may not have sufficient time to go there to cast their votes; and

WHEREAS, provision must be made in the case of barrios or barangays where the conditions of peace and order are unsettled, to the end that the barangay members thereof be not deprived of their right to vote;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution as Commander-in-Chief of all the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and pursuant to Proclamation No. 1081, dated September 21, 1972, and General Order No. 1, dated September 22, 1972, as amended, do hereby order and decree to be part of the laws of the land the following:

SECTION 1. Presidential Decree No. 229 is hereby amended by inserting therein the following Sections to be known as Section 6-A and Section 6-B to read as follows:

"SEC. 6-A. *Authority for any Official or Employee to Vote in his Place of Assignment.* — Any officer or employee of the Government, including government-owned or controlled corporations, whose office is located in the Metro-Manila area and who is registered as a barangay member in the province shall, if he chooses, be authorized to cast his vote in the barangay referendum center nearest his place of residence: *Provided*, That the Barangay Referendum Committee shall allow such officer or employee to cast his vote upon presentation of a certification of the chief of office or agency concerned that the voter is an employee of the office or agency and a barangay member registered in his province: *Provided, further*, That any officer or employee on field assignment in the provinces and who is registered as barangay member in the Metro-Manila area may cast his vote in the place where he is assigned, subject to the same requirement *provided* in the preceding sentence concerning the certification of the chief of office or agency.

"SEC. 6-B. *Authority for any Military Personnel to Vote in His Place of Assignment.* —

Any military personnel who is registered as a barangay member in a place other than his present assignment shall be allowed to cast his vote in the barangay referendum center nearest the camp, barracks or detachment where he is assigned or sent on mission: *Provided*, That whenever possible and convenient, taking into