

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7647, March 05, 1993]

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DATE OF REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR REGIONAL GOVERNOR, REGIONAL VICE-GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. The regular elections for regional governor, regional vice-governor, and members of the Regional Legislative Assembly for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, shall be held on the second Monday after the Muslim month of Ramadhan immediately preceding the end of the term of office of such officials except the second regular election in 1993 which shall be held on the 25th of March, 1993: *Provided*, That if no candidate shall have been duly elected and qualified on March 31, 1993, the incumbent regional governor and vice-governor shall continue in office in a holdover capacity until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified, subject to Article VIII, Section 11 of Republic Act No. 6734: *Provided, further*, That while acting in a holdover capacity, the regional governor and vice-governor shall not disburse public funds except for personnel and administrative matters, make appointments, including promotions, transfer and/or assignments of personnel and shall be subject to all the restrictions and/or prohibitions mandated by Section 261 of the Omnibus Election Code more particularly, but not limited to, paragraphs (g); (h); (k); (m); (o); (r); (u); (v); (w); and (x), of said section.

SEC. 2.

a. *Board of Canvassers.* — There shall be a board of canvassers in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao for the purpose of the elections in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and a provincial board of canvassers in each province therein as follows:

1. *Regional Board of Canvassers.* The regional board of canvassers shall canvass the certificates of canvass, which shall be accompanied by the statement of votes by precincts, prepared and submitted to it by the provincial board of canvassers for the positions of regional governor and vice-governor and on the basis thereof, proclaim as elected, the candidates for regional governor and vice-governor who obtained the highest number of votes in

The regional board of canvassers shall be composed of a ranking lawyer of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) as chairman, a representative likewise of equivalent rank in the Department of Justice as vice-