

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 50, October 20, 1986]

PROVIDING FOR THE GENERAL REGISTRATION OF VOTERS FOR THE PLEBISCITE ON THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION, FOR THE PLEBISCITE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Provisional Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, a new Constitution shall be drafted by the Constitutional Commission and thereafter submitted to the people in a plebiscite;

WHEREAS, to ensure that the true will of the people will be reflected in the plebiscite, there is a need to annul the existing permanent list of voters and to call for a new registration of voters;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, do hereby order:

a. General Provisions

SECTION 1. General Registration of Voters. - The existing permanent lists of voters in every city and municipality are hereby declared null and void. A general registration of voters shall be held throughout the Philippines before the plebiscite on the new Constitution in accordance with this Executive Order on such dates as the Commission on Elections may fix.

SEC. 2. List of Voters. - There shall be a list of voters in each city and municipality, with such additions, cancellations and corrections as herein provided.

SEC. 3. Necessity of Registration. - In order that a qualified voter may vote in the plebiscite, he must be registered in the list of voters for the city or municipality in which he resides.

SEC. 4. Who may be Registered in the List of Voters. - All persons possessing all the qualifications and none of the disqualifications of a voter and who have complied with the requirements for the registration of voters shall be registered in the list of voters of the city or municipality wherein they reside. Any person who may not have attained on the date of registration the age or period of residence required may also be registered upon proof that on the date of the plebiscite, he shall have such qualifications.

SEC. 5. Board of Election Inspectors. - At least ten (10) days before the first day of registration of voters in accordance herewith, the Commission shall, directly or through its duly authorized representatives, constitute a Board of Election Inspectors for each precinct to be composed of a Chairman and two members, who shall all be public school teachers registered as voters of the city or municipality:

Provided, That in case of shortage of public school teachers, the Commission may appoint private school teachers, or other citizens of known probity and competence, who are registered voters of the city of municipality. The appointment shall specifically state the precinct to which they are assigned and the date of the appointment.

The members of the Board shall each receive a per diem of Fifty Pesos for each day of actual service rendered in the Board.

b. Registration of Voters

SEC. 6. Procedure in Registration. - Any person qualified to vote shall register with the Board of Election Inspectors of the precinct in which his residence is included on any of the dates fixed by the Commission on Elections under Section 1 hereof by accomplishing in four (4) copies a voter's affidavit in which he shall state the following data:

- (a) Surname, first name, middle name, if any and maternal surname in that order;
- (b) Date and place of birth;
- (c) Citizenship;
- (d) Periods of residence in the Philippines and in the place or registration;
- (e) Exact address with the name of the street and house number or in case there is none, a brief description of the locality and the place;
- (f) A statement that the applicant has not applied for registration in any other precinct, city or municipality for this 1986 general registration of voters; and
- (g) Such other information or data which may be required by the Commission.

The voter's affidavit shall also contain three specimens of the applicant's signature and clear and legible fingerprints and shall be subscribed and sworn to by him before all the members of the Board.

The oath of the applicant shall include a statement that he does not have any of the disqualifications of a voter and he has not been previously registered in the precinct or any other precinct under this General Registration of Voters.

Before the applicant accomplishes his voter's affidavit, the Board shall apprise him of the qualifications and disqualifications prescribed for a voter as herein provided. It shall see to it that the accomplished voter's affidavit contains all the data therein required and that the applicant's specimen signatures, the prints of his left and right hand thumbmarks and the rest of his fingerprints are properly affixed in each copy of his voter's affidavit.

SEC. 7. Action by the Board. - Upon receipt of the voter's affidavit, the Board shall examine the data therein. If it finds that the applicant possesses all the qualifications and none of the disqualifications of a voter, he shall be registered. Otherwise, he shall not be registered.

The name and address of each registered voter shall, immediately upon his registration, be entered in the proper alphabetical group in the list of voters. The voter's identification card duly attested by the Chairman of the Board shall be issued to the voter.

SEC. 8. Voter's Identification Card. - The identification card issued to the voter shall serve and be considered as a document for the identification of each registered voter: Provided, That if the voter's identity is challenged on the day of voting and he can not present his voter's identification card or his identification card bears signs of tampering, his identity may be established by the specimen signature, or the fingerprints in his voter's affidavit in the book of voters. No extra or duplicate copy of the voter's identification card shall be prepared and issued except upon express written authority of the Commission.

Each identification card shall bear the name and the address of the voter, his date of birth, sex, civil status and the precinct number where he is registered.

c. List of Voters

SEC. 9. - For the preparation of the list of voters as provided in this Executive Order, the Board of Election Inspectors of each precinct shall hold four (4) meetings on the date fixed by the Commission on Elections under Section 1 of this Executive Order. At these meetings the Board shall prepare in the alphabetical order of the surnames of the voters eight (8) copies of the list of voters who registered in the precinct.

SEC. 10. Closing of the List of Voters. - The Board of Election Inspectors shall also meet on the fourth (4th) Saturday immediately preceding the day of the plebiscite, for the purpose of making such inclusions, exclusions, and corrections as may be ordered by the courts, stating opposite every name so corrected, added, or cancelled, the date of the order and the court which issued the same, and for the consecutive numbering of the voters registered in the election precinct.

Should the Board fail to include in the list of voters any person ordered by a component court to be so included, the said person shall, upon presentation of a copy of the order of inclusion duly certified by the Clerk of Court and upon proper identification, even on the day of the plebiscite be allowed by the Board to vote.

Should the Board failed to exclude from the list of voters any person ordered by the court to be so excluded, the Board shall not permit said person to vote upon presentation to it by any interested party of a certified copy of the order of exclusion.

SEC. 11. Preservation of Voter's Affidavits. - A copy of the affidavit of each voter shall be kept by the Board until after the day of the plebiscite, when it shall deliver the same to the Election Registrar together with copies of the list of voters and other election papers. The Election Registrar shall compile the voter's affidavits by precincts in the alphabetical order of surnames in a book of voters. The other two

(2) copies shall be sent by the Board on the day after the last date for registration of voters to the Office of the Provincial Election Supervisor and the main office of the Commission in Manila. The Provincial Election Supervisor and the Commission shall respectively file and preserve the voter's affidavits by cities and municipalities in the alphabetical order of their surnames. The fourth copy of the affidavit shall be given immediately to the voter as evidence of his registration.

SEC. 12. Provincial Central File of Registered Voters. - There shall be a Provincial Central File of registered voters containing the duplicate copies of all approved voter's affidavits in each city and municipality in the province which shall be under the care and custody of the Provincial Election Supervisor. The applications shall be compiled by precincts in the alphabetical order of the surnames of the registered voters to make the file an exact replica of the book of voters in the possession of the Election Registrar.

Should the books of voters in the care and custody of the Election Registrar be lost or destroyed at a time so close to the plebiscite that there is no time to reconstitute the same, the corresponding book of voters in the provincial file shall be used during the plebiscite.

SEC. 13. National Central File of Registered Voters. - There shall also be a National Central File of Registered voters consisting of the triplicate copies of all approved voter's affidavits in all cities and municipalities, which shall be prepared and kept in the Central Office of the Commission. The applications in the National Central File shall be compiled alphabetically according to the surnames of the registered voters regardless of the place of registration.

SEC. 14. Columns in the List of Voters. - The list of voters shall be arranged in columns as follows:

- (a) In the first column, there shall be entered, at the time of closing of the list before the plebiscite, a number opposite the name of each voter registered, beginning with number one and continuing in consecutive order until the end of the list;
- b) In the second column, the surname of the registered voter shall be written in alphabetical order followed by the first name, middle name, if any, and maternal surname, without abbreviations of any kind;
- (c) In the third column, the residence of such person with the house number, name of the street, sitio and barangay, or, in case there be none, a brief but sufficient description of the locality or place shall be entered;
- (d) In the fourth column, the date of birth and periods of residence in the Philippines and in the city or municipality shall be entered;
- (e) In the fifth column, there shall be entered, on the day of the plebiscite, the number of the ballot given successively to