

[BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 643, December 21, 1983]

**AN ACT TO SUBMIT TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE FOR
RATIFICATION OR REJECTION THE AMENDMENTS TO THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE PHILIPPINES PROPOSED BY THE
BATASANG PAMBANSA IN ITS SIXTH REGULAR SESSION,
CALLING A PLEBISCITE FOR THIS PURPOSE, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Be it enacted by the Batasang Pambansa, in session assembled:

SECTION 1. A plebiscite shall be held on January 27, 1984, pursuant to Article XVI, Sections 1(1) and 2 of the Constitution, for the submission to the people of amendments to the Constitution of the Philippines proposed by the Batasang Pambansa during its Sixth Regular Session.

SEC. 2. The said amendments shall be published at least once in at least three newspapers of nation-wide circulation and once in at least one newspaper of provincial circulation in every province to be determined by raffle, the last publication to be made not later than January 7, 1984. Printed copies of the amendments shall be posted in a conspicuous place in every provincial capitol, municipal, city and barangay hall or building not later than January 7, 1984. Sufficient copies of the proposed amendments shall be furnished each voting center to be available for the qualified voters to read and study on the day of the plebiscite. Copies thereof in the principal dialects shall also be printed and distributed to the electorate. The Commission on Elections is hereby empowered to promulgate rules and regulations to assure widest dissemination through the print and broadcast media and other means of information on the proposed amendments and questions herein prescribed for submission to the electorate.

SEC. 3. The official ballots to be used in the plebiscite shall be printed in English and, in appropriate cases, in Arabic in accordance with the provisions of the Election Code of 1978, in a form to be prescribed by the Commission on Elections which shall include the questions and particulars hereunder stated to be printed in clearly readable type:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

The Batasang Pambansa, in Resolutions Numbered 104, 105, 110, 111 and 112 has proposed that the Constitution of the Philippines be amended in the particulars herein-below stated.

To vote for the approval of each of the questions covering the proposed amendments, write the word "Yes" or its equivalent in the blank space provided for the purpose. A check mark shall not be considered as such equivalent.

To vote for the rejection thereof, write the word "No" or its equivalent in the blank space provided for the purpose. A cross or "x" mark shall not be considered as such equivalent.

QUESTION NO. 1

Do you vote for the approval of amendments to the Constitution proposed by the Batasang Pambansa in Resolution Numbered 104 and 112 which, in substance, provides as follows:

1. The Members of the Batasang Pambansa shall be elected by the different provinces with their component cities, by highly urbanized cities, and by the districts of Metropolitan Manila, instead of by the various regions. Each province, highly urbanized city and district of Metropolitan Manila shall be entitled to at least one Member. The total number of Members of each province and city shall at least be the same as under the 1935 Constitution.

2. The Members of the Batasang Pambansa to be elected by the different provinces with their component cities, highly urbanized cities, and the districts of Metropolitan Manila shall be apportioned, unless otherwise provided by law, as follows:

National Capital Region: Manila, 6; Quezon City, 4; Caloocan, 2; Pasay, 1; Pasig and Marikina, 2; Las Piñas and Paranaque, 1; Makati, 1; Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela, 2; San Juan and Mandaluyong, 1; Taguig, Pateros and Muntinglupa, 1.

Region I: Abra, 1; Benguet, 1; Ilocos Norte with Laoag City, 2; Ilocos Sur, 2; La Union, 2; Mountain Province, 1; Pangasinan with the cities of Dagupan and San Carlos, 6; Baguio City, 1;

Region II: Batanes, 1; Cagayan, 3; Ifugao, 1; Isabela, 3; Kalinga-Apayao, 1; Nueva Vizcaya, 1; Quirino, 1;

Region III: Bataan, 1; Bulacan, 4; Nueva Ecija with the cities of Cabanatuan, Palayan and San Jose, 4; Pampanga with Angeles City, 4; Tarlac, 2; Zambales, 1; Olongapo City, 1;

Region IV: Aurora, 1; Batangas with the cities of Batangas and Lipa, 4; Cavite with the cities of Cavite, Tagaytay and Trece Martires, 3; Laguna with San Pablo City, 4; Marinduque, 1; Occidental Mindoro, 1; Oriental Mindoro, 2; Palawan with

Puerto Princesa City, 1; Quezon with Lucena City, 4; Rizal, 2; Romblon, 1;

Region V: Albay with Legaspi City, 3; Camarines Norte, 1; Camarines Sur with the cities of Iriga and Naga, 4; Catanduanes, 1; Masbate, 2; Sorsogon, 2;

Region VI: Aklan, 1; Antique 1; Capiz with Roxas City, 2; Iloilo with Iloilo City, 5; Negros Occidental with the cities of Bacolod, Bago, Cadiz, La Carlota, San Carlos and Silay, 7;

Region VII: Bohol with Tagbilaran City, 3; Cebu with the cities of Danao, Lapu-Lapu, Mandaue and Toledo, 6; Negros Oriental with the cities of Bais, Canlaon and Dumaguete, 3; Siquijor, 1; Cebu City, 2;

Region VIII: Leyte with the cities of Ormoc and Tacloban, 5; Southern Leyte, 1; Eastern Samar, 1; Northern Samar, 1; Samar with Calbayog City, 2;

Region IX: Basilan, 1; Sulu, 1; Tawi-Tawi, 1; Zamboanga del Norte with the cities of Dapitan and Dipolog, 2; Zamboanga del Sur with Pagadian City, 3; Zamboanga City, 1;

Region X: Agusan del Norte with Butuan City, 1; Agusan del Sur, 1; Bukidnon, 2; Camiguin, 1; Misamis Occidental with the cities of Oroquieta, Ozamis and Tangub, 1; Misamis Oriental with Gingoog City, 2; Surigao del Norte with Surigao City, 1; Cagayan de Oro City, 1;

Region XI: Surigao del Sur, 1; Davao del Norte, 3; Davao Oriental, 1; Davao del Sur, 2; South Cotabato with General Santos City, 3; Davao City, 2;

Region XII: Lanao del Norte, 1; Lanao del Sur with Marawi City, 2; Maguindanao with Cotabato City, 2; North Cotabato, 2; Sultan Kudarat, 1; Iligan City, 1.

Any province that may hereafter be created or any component city that may hereafter be declared by or pursuant to law as a highly urbanized city, shall be entitled in the immediately following election to at least one Member or such number of Members as it may be entitled to on the basis of the number of its inhabitants and on the same uniform and progressive ratio used in the, last preceding apportionment. The number of Members apportioned to the province out of which the new province was created or where the new highly urbanized city is geographically located shall be correspondingly adjusted by the Commission on Elections but such adjustment shall not be made within one hundred twenty days before the election.

3. The foregoing apportionment shall be appended as an Ordinance to the Constitution.

4. The residence requirement in the political subdivision in which a Member of the Batasang Pambansa will be elected is reduced from one year to six months immediately preceding the day of the election.

QUESTION NO. 2

Do you vote for the approval of amendments to the Constitution as proposed by the Batasang Pambansa in Resolution Numbered 110 which, in substance, provide for a different mode of presidential succession with the following salient features:

1. Abolition of the Executive Committee and Creation of the Office of the Vice-President

(1) The Executive Committee provided in Section 3, Article IX of the Constitution is abolished.

(2) The Office of the Vice-President is created. The Vice-President shall have the same qualifications and term of office and may be removed from office in the same manner as the President. He may be appointed as a member of the Cabinet and he may be nominated and elected as Prime Minister. He shall be elected with and in the same manner as the President. A vote for the President shall also be a vote for the Vice-President running under the same ticket of a political party, unless otherwise provided by law. The age qualification for President and Vice-President is reduced to 40 years old.