

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 486

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RECEIVED

DATE: 30 JUN 2016

TIME: 3:50 pm

BY: [Signature]

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Introduced by the Honorable Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Almost three decades had already passed since the people ratified the current Constitution through a plebiscite on February 2, 1987. It has become apparent that the time has come for the people to revisit the current Constitution to implement changes that would be responsive to the current needs of the nation.

During my time as a legislator and as a chief executive, I have advocated for constitutional reform to enable our country to adapt to the shifting political and economic landscape.

In view of the *Concurrent House Resolution Calling for a Constitutional Convention* approved by two-thirds of both Houses of Congress, voting separately, I call upon my colleagues to answer the call for constitutional reform by joining me in this legislative measure to implement the said Concurrent House Resolution.


GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 486

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by the Honorable Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
NO. 01 CALLING FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION,
PROVIDING FOR ITS COMPOSITION AND OTHER DETAILS
RELATING TO THE HOLDING THEREOF.**

SECTION 1. *Short Title* – This Act shall be known as the *Constitutional Convention Act of 2016*.

SECTION 2. *Congress to convene in ten days upon approval of the Concurrent House Resolution* – Within ten (10) days following the approval by at least two-thirds of each House of Congress, voting separately, of the Concurrent House Resolution calling for a Constitutional Convention, the Senate and the House of Representatives shall convene separately for the purpose of electing twenty four (24) delegates to the Convention.

SECTION 3. *Delegates from the Senate* – The Senate shall elect from among its members twelve (12) delegates, who shall not be deemed to have vacated their seats upon their election as delegates, provided that they shall receive no compensation for being delegates to the Convention.

SECTION 4. *Delegates from the House of Representatives* – The House of Representatives shall elect from among its members twelve (12) delegates, who shall not be deemed to have vacated their seats upon their election as delegates, provided that they shall receive no compensation for being delegates to the Convention.

SECTION 5. *Manner of filling vacancies, congressional delegates* - Any vacancy due to death, permanent disability, or resignation of a delegate elected from the Senate or the House of Representatives shall be filled by the House concerned within ten (10) days from such vacancy.

SECTION 6. *Appointive delegates* - Within ten (10) days upon the calling of the Constitutional Convention, the President shall promulgate an executive order providing, among others, the manner by which twenty four (24) delegates shall be appointed from various sectors of society. The executive order shall specify the procedure for the conduct of public consultations for the purpose of determining the sectors from which the appointive delegates shall be chosen from.

SECTION 7. *Qualifications, disqualifications, and salaries of the appointive delegates* - The delegates appointed by the President from various sectors of society shall be of recognized probity, independence, nationalism, and patriotism, and shall be subject to the same qualifications and disqualifications, and shall receive the same salaries for Members of the House of Representatives.

SECTION 8. *Manner of filling vacancies, appointive delegates* - Any vacancy due to death, permanent disability, or resignation of an appointive delegate shall be filled by the President from a list of at least three (3) nominees submitted by the sector from which the delegate to be substituted came from within ten (10) days from such vacancy.

SECTION 9. *Incompatible office, appointive delegates* - Any incumbent government official or employee, whether elective or appointive, including members of the armed forces and officers or employees of government owned and/or controlled corporations, who is appointed by the President as a delegate to the Convention, shall be deemed automatically resigned and shall not be qualified to run for any public office in any election, or to assume any appointive office or position in any branch of government, until after the final adjournment of the Convention.

SECTION 10. *Quorum and organization* - Unless the Convention provides otherwise, a majority of its members shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may meet, adjourn from day to day, and

compel the attendance of absent members. The Convention may organize itself by electing its own officers, creating committees, and adopting rules for its proceedings.

SECTION 11. *Parliamentary immunity* – Existing laws relative to parliamentary immunity shall be applicable to the members of the Convention, and the protection of its sessions and its committees against obstructions and disturbances, including the penalties provided for violation of said laws, shall be applicable to the Convention and to its sessions and those of its committees.

SECTION 12. *Congress to provide personnel and premises* – The Senate and the House of Representatives shall place at the disposal of the Convention such personnel and premises as may be necessary without detriment to the operations of both Houses of Congress, and without any additional cost to the government.

SECTION 13. *Submission to the president, holding of a plebiscite* – Within one hundred twenty (120) days from its first session, the Convention shall submit the revised Constitution to the President, who shall thereafter fix the date for the holding of a plebiscite. The revised Constitution shall become valid and effective upon ratification by a majority of the votes cast in such plebiscite, which shall be held within sixty (60) days following its submission to the President.

SECTION 14. There is hereby appropriated an amount of Seven Hundred Million Pesos (P700,000,000.00) for the operations of the Convention.

SECTION 15. *Separability Clause* – If for any reason any section or provision of this Act, or any portion thereof, is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act shall not be affected by such declaration.

SECTION 16. *Effectivity* – This Act take effect upon its approval.

Approved,