

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 01

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
RECEIVED
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BY: <u>[Signature]</u>
REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by Representative MICAELA S. VIOLAGO

**JOINT RESOLUTION
TO CONVENE THE CONGRESS INTO A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY FOR THE
PURPOSE OF REVISING THE CONSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH A FEDERAL
SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT**

Whereas, the Constitution provides for a unitary system of government where under the present setup, power, authority and resources are centralized in the national government in Manila;

Whereas, the highly centralized system of government has contributed to the aggravation of the people's condition and problems while benefiting those who are friendly with or have easy access to an incumbent administration;

Whereas, this unbalanced arrangement has resulted to a legion of problems including massive nationwide poverty to runaway insurgencies and rebellions that feed on the societal inequalities in the nation;

Whereas, a federal form of government is necessary to more effectively and efficiently cater to the needs of the country despite its diversity and to improve governance at the national, regional and local levels;

Whereas, the primary objectives of a constitutional amendment is to increase decentralization, greater local power and access to resources most especially among regions outside Metro Manila;

Whereas, creating eleven States out of the Republic would establish 11 centers of finance and development in the archipelago as follows:

1. The State of Northern Luzon;
2. The State of Cordillera;
3. The State of Central Luzon;
4. The State of Metro Manila;

5. The State of Southern Luzon;
6. The State of Bicol and Romblon;
7. The State of Western Visayas and Palawan;
8. The State of Central and Eastern Visayas;
9. The State of Western and Northern Mindanao;
10. The State of Davao Region and Central Mindanao; and
11. The State of BangsaMoro

in addition to the country's only one center of finance and development in Metro-Manila which shall be constituted as the Federal Administrative Region;

Whereas, the federalization of the Republic would encourage development of the entire nation in a decentralized and regional manner and allows for unique and innovative methods for attacking social, economic and political problems;

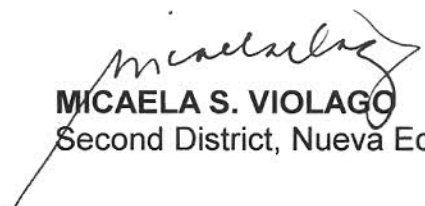
Whereas, the shift from the unitary system of government to the federal system requires revising the Constitution;

Whereas, the revision of the Constitution to establish a federal system of government may be done in either of three ways: Constitutional Convention, Constituent Assembly or by Popular Initiative, and

Whereas, considering all circumstances, it may be most expedient to revise the Constitution through a Constituent Assembly;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SENATE CONCURRING, upon a vote of three-fourths of all the Members of both Houses voting separately, to convene Congress into a constituent assembly pursuant to Section 1, paragraph 1 of Article XVII of the Constitution, and revise the Constitution for the purpose of adopting a federal system of government that will create 11 States, constitute Metro-Manila as the Federal Administrative Region, and convert the nation into the Federal Republic of the Philippines.

ADOPTED.


MICAELA S. VIOLAGO
Second District, Nueva Ecija