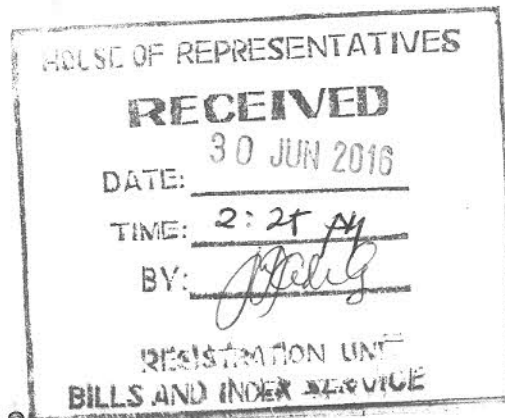


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 02



Introduced by: **HON. ALFREDO "ALBEE" B. BENITEZ**

**A JOINT RESOLUTION TO CONVENE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND THE SENATE INTO A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO INTRODUCE
REVISIONS AND/ OR AMENDMENTS TO THE 1987 CONSTITUTION**

WHEREAS, the Constitution is the fundamental law of the land and should therefore be responsive to the changing needs of the country and its citizens;

WHEREAS, there have been clamor for change in the system of government, shift to a federal form of government, provision of more autonomy and empowerment of the local government, less restrictive economic policies and other proposals that necessitate changes in the present Constitution;

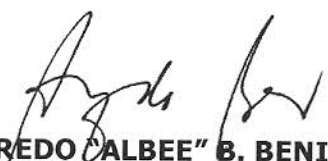
WHEREAS, the Constitution provides for three modes of proposing amendments which are: Constituent Assembly, Constitutional Convention and People's initiative;

WHEREAS, this resolution proposes convening the Philippine Congress into a Constituent Assembly to introduce and adopt revisions and/ or amendments to the Constitution as it is the most expeditious and less costly than the other modes of Charter change;

WHEREAS, Congress will create a "Council of Elders" composed of not less than 10 members coming from different sectors including but not limited to religious, non-government organizations, urban poor, business, academe, former justices, to serve as council of experts to provide inputs to Congress in drafting the revisions to the Constitution;

WHEREAS, the revisions and/ or amendments should be completed by Congress within one year after the Constituent assembly is convened;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved as it is hereby resolved jointly by the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring upon a vote of three-fourths of all the Members of both Houses voting separately, to convene the Philippine Congress into a Constituent Assembly to introduce amendments to the 1987 Constitution.


ALFREDO "ALBEE" B. BENITEZ
Third District, Negros Occidental