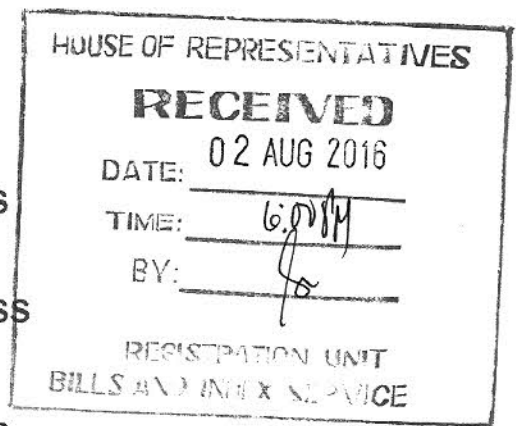


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
SEVENTEENTH (17TH) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 129



Introduced by Representative **AMADO T. ESPINO, JR.**

A RESOLUTION URGING THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE TO CONVENE FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING OR REVISING THE 1987 CONSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH A SHIFT FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL FORM TO FEDERAL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, the shift from the Presidential-Unitary system of government to a Federal-Parliamentary form is looming and accelerating as the clamor thereto is not only coming from the different sectors but from the highest elected official of the land, the President;

WHEREAS, it is the considered view that the clamored change will be responsive to the varying needs of the country and its citizens because it will bring political stability and spur economic development as it will allow decentralized and regional innovative methods of solving social, economic and political issues;

WHEREAS, in order to implement the much needed change in the government system, it is imperative for the 1987 Constitution, the country's fundamental law of the land, to be accordingly amended or revised;

WHEREAS, under Section 1, Article XVII of the 1987 Constitution, any amendment to, or revision of, the Constitution may be proposed by (1) The Congress, upon a vote of three-fourths of all the members, or (2) a Constitutional Convention;

WHEREAS, Congress convening as a Constituent Assembly will be the most economical and fastest way of bringing forth the shift from the unitary Presidential form of government to Federal-decentralized system which would "unshackle the localities by letting them keep the taxes they collect for spending on localized projects that would impel development";

WHEREAS, Congress, convening as a Constituent Assembly, will create an "Assembly of Experts" which will be composed of five (5) most experienced Senators, eighteen (18) Members of the House of Representatives selected from the Eighteen (18) Regions of the country, five (5) members from the association of the Deans of the Law Universities/Schools to represent the academe and Five (5) Private experts from the economics, Organizational Structure and Management and CEO level to develop a totally new framework of FEDERAL-PARLIAMENTARY form

of governance and present the same to the Constituent Assembly for its deliberations and consideration;

WHEREAS, the Constituent Assembly assisted by the "Assembly of Experts" will reduce the time and cost in crafting a complete government model with a very little political maneuvering creating therefore a perfect machinery of government and framework appropriate for Philippine setting;

WHEREAS, the revisions and/or amendments should be completed by Congress during the 17th Congress;

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 or revision of the 1987 Constitution.

Adopted.


AMADO T. ESPINO, JR.
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