COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1160

Submitted by the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms on August 25, 2021.

Re: House Resolution No. 2168

Recommending its adoption in substitution of House Resolution No. 1796

Sponsors: Representatives Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer, Joseph Stephen Paduano and Carlos Isagani Zarate

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms, to which was referred House Resolution No. 1796, introduced by Reps. Joseph Stephen Paduano, Janette Garin, Jose Christopher Belmonte, Carlos Isagani Zarate, Stella Luz Quimbo, Argel Joseph Cabatbat, Sharee Ann Tan, Bayani Fernando, France Castro, Arlene Brosas, Irene Saulog, Gabriel Bordado, Sergio Dagooc, Isagani Amatong, Lawrence Fortun, Alex Advincula, Eufemia Cullamat, Angelica Natasha Co, Godofredo Guya, Ferdinand Gaite, Maria Victoria Umali, Sarah Jane Elago, and Jose “Bonito” Singson, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION
URGING THE COMELEC TO ESTABLISH MORE SATELLITE REGISTRATION CENTERS TO COPE WITH OUR CONSTITUENTS WHO WISH TO BECOME REGISTERED VOTERS”

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Resolution No. 2168, entitled

“RESOLUTION
URGING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL SATELLITE REGISTRATION CENTERS NATIONWIDE AND OVERSEAS”

be adopted in substitution of House Resolution No. 1796 with the Honorable Representatives Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer, Joseph Stephen Paduano, Janette Garin, Jose Christopher Belmonte, Carlos Isagani Zarate, Stella Luz Quimbo, Argel Joseph Cabatbat, Sharee Ann Tan, Bayani Fernando, France Castro, Arlene Brosas, Irene Saulog, Gabriel Bordado, Sergio Dagooc, Isagani Amatong, Lawrence Fortun, Alex Advincula, Eufemia Cullamat, Angelica Natasha Co, Godofredo Guya, Ferdinand Gaite, Maria Victoria Umali, Sarah Jane Elago, and Jose “Bonito” Singson as authors thereof.
Respectfully submitted:

HON. JULIET MARIE DE LEON FERRER
Chairperson
Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms
Republic of the Philippines
Quezon City

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Resolution No. 2168

Sponsored by REPRESENTATIVES Joseph Stephen Paduano, Janette Garin, Jose Christopher Belmonte, Carlos Isagani Zarate, Stella Luz Quimbo, Argel Joseph Cabatbat, Sharee Ann Tan, Bayani Fernando, France Castro, Arlene Brosas, Irene Saulog, Gabriel Bordado, Sergio Dagooc, Isagani Amatong, Lawrence Fortun, Alex Advincula, Eufemia Cullamat, Angelica Natasha Co, Godofredo Guya, Ferdinand Gaite, Maria Victoria Umali, Sarah Jane Elago, Jose “Bonito” Singson, and Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer

RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL SATELLITE REGISTRATION CENTERS NATIONWIDE AND OVERSEAS

WHEREAS, Article V Section 1 of the Constitution provides that suffrage may be exercised by all citizens of the Philippines not otherwise disqualified by law, who are at least eighteen (18) years of age, and who shall have resided in the Philippines for at least one (1) year, and in the place wherein they propose to vote, for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the election;

WHEREAS, the activities of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) on continuing voter registration have intensified and are in full swing;

WHEREAS, the ongoing pandemic has become a hindrance to achieve the projected four million new registrants as well as the reactivation of the registration of another one million voters;

WHEREAS, the upcoming 2022 polls are of primordial importance and significance; due to the fact that in view of the synchronized manner of the upcoming elections, the citizenry are going to vote for both national and local candidates, including their choice for president and vice-president;

WHEREAS, reports of a low turnout of new registrants have been received due to the incapacity of the COMELEC to accommodate our citizens who wish to register as voters in the country and overseas;

WHEREAS, the continuing voter registration program in connection with the upcoming 2022 elections is scheduled to end on September 30, 2021;

WHEREAS, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority, there will be 73 million Filipinos who will be at least eighteen (18) years old by May 9, 2022, and out of the 58 million currently registered voters, there are 15 million Filipinos who have yet to be included in the list of voters for next year's election;

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase the capacity of the COMELEC to accommodate registrants by increasing the number of registration centers nationwide and overseas;
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to urge the COMELEC to establish additional satellite registration centers nationwide and overseas;

RESOLVED FURTHER, to enjoin the citizenry with a sense of urgency, especially the youth and first-time voters, to register as soon as possible, and to remind them about the importance of exercising their right to vote.

ADOPTED.