CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES **EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS** First Regular Session

## **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

## H. No. 6470

By	REPRESENTATIVES	QUIMBO	), FERRER (	(J.M.),	ROMUA	LDEZ	(F.M.)
	AND TAMBUNTIN	G, PER	COMMITTEE	REPO	RT NO.	266	

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10366, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO DESIGNATE PRECINCTS ASSIGNED TO ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES EXCLUSIVELY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Section 2(j) of Republic Act No. 10366 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. XXX

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"(j) Accessible polling place refers to the venue where the Board of Election Inspectors (BEIs) conducts election-related proceedings and where the voters cast their votes. The accessible polling place shall be located at the ground floor, preferably near the entrance of the building, SHALL BE READILY ACCESSIBLE TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, and [is] SHALL BE free of any physical barriers and provided with necessary

INFRASTRUCTURE AND services, including assistive 2 devices[.], RAMPS, RAILINGS, SIDEWALKS, ADEQUATE 3 LIGHTING, VENTILATION AND OTHER FEATURES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS." 5 SEC. 2. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 10366 is hereby

amended to read as follows:

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"Sec. 9. [Creation of] Precincts for Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens. - The Commission is hereby authorized to [establish] DESIGNATE precincts of a nonterritorial nature, exclusively for IN ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF persons with disabilities and senior citizens, [who in their registration records manifest their intent to avail of their right to a separate precinct under this section. Pursuant hereto, the Commission shall establish at least one (1) such precinct, assigned to accessible polling places, for every voting center. Such as in public SCHOOLS, TOWN HALLS OR PLAZAS, CIVIC CENTERS, COMMUNITY CENTERS OTHER SIMILARLY OR DESIGNATED SPECIAL OR AREAS, AND VENUES PREFERABLY THOSE DESIGNED WITH FEATURES, TO ENSURE THEIR SAFETY AND COMFORT. Such precincts shall be provided with assistive devices PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 2(J) OF THIS ACT as well as the services of experts in assisting persons with disabilities."

SEC. 3. Within sixty (60) days from its effectivity, the Commission shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 5. All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,