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**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
MANILA**

**IN RE PETITION FOR INITIATIVE
TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION,
PROPOSING TO MERGE LEGISLATIVE
AND EXECUTIVE POWERS IN ONE
GOVERNING BODY WITH THE BROADEST
REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE.**

EM No. _____

(INDIVIDUAL PETITIONERS),

_____, _____,
_____, _____, **and**
_____, **together with and**
on behalf of _____
registered voters.
Petitioners.

X-----X

PETITION FOR INITIATIVE

1. We, the undersigned petitioners, being Filipino citizens and registered voters of the Republic of the Philippines, constituting and representing at least twelve *per centum* (12%) of the total number of registered voters, of which every legislative district is represented by at least three *per centum* (3%) of the registered voters therein, present this Petition for Initiative to the Honorable Commission on Elections, and respectfully request that the following proposed amendments to the Constitution, be submitted to a vote of the Filipino people at a plebiscite. The *Signature Sheets* of the petitioners are attached as *Annexes A-* _____ *to A-* _____ . The *Certifications* of the *Comelec*

District Officers are attached as *Annexes B-* _____ *to B-* _____ .

2. The full text of the *proposed amendments* to the 1987 Constitution are contained in the attached *Annex C*.

3. The proposition seeks to merge legislative and executive powers in one governing body with the broadest representation of the people, amending for this purpose

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4. The reasons for the proposition are as follows:
 - (a) to establish the foundation for a strong republic;
 - (b) to streamline the bureaucracy for efficiency and economy;
 - (c) to provide checks and balances through collective accountability, by transferring executive powers from one (1) individual -- the President, as well as legislative powers from a small group of twenty-four (24) individuals -- the Senators, to a large body with the broadest representation of the people, comprised of all the district representatives, regional representatives and sectoral representatives;
 - (d) to avoid the institutional gridlock between the legislature and the chief executive, by consolidating the legislative and executive powers of government in one unified political body;
 - (e) to avoid the institutional gridlock and duplication of functions between the upper house (or Senate) and the lower house (or House of Representatives) of the legislature, by consolidating them in one unicameral body; and
 - (f) to democratize the selection process for chief executive and legislators, by replacing direct national elections at large, with direct local elections for legislators, coupled with indirect elections for chief executive (where the political party that gains the majority of the seats for legislators also gains the power to elect the chief executive).

5. This petition is filed pursuant to Article XVII, Sections 2 and 4 of the 1987 Constitution and the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 6735. The proposed amendments are not covered by the exceptions under Republic Act No. 6735.

6. Each of the undersigned petitioners states that he/she has personally read,

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understood and signed this petition; that the proposed amendments were read and explained in a language or dialect known to him/her; and that no public funds have been spent for the petition;

7. Petitioners have authorized any one (1) of _____, _____, _____, _____ and _____, with full power of substitution, to represent and act for the petitioners in the circulation and filing of this petition.

8. The full text of the proposed amendments are the same amendments contained in the Joint Declaration notarized as Document No. ___, Page No. ___, Book No. ___, Series of ___, by Notary Public _____ on _____ at _____. The Joint Declaration served as the common reference document for all the attached Signature Sheets and this petition. The petition and full text of the proposed amendments, prepared in at least ___ counter-parts, were circulated together with the Signature Sheets, prepared in at least ___ counter-parts, at the ratio of 1 to _____. The full text of the proposed amendments were published in national and local newspapers in the course of circulation. Signature stations were established by the proponents with the assistance of the COMELEC in as many places in the city/municipality as warranted. Verification of the signatures was done by COMELEC during or after the signature gathering process.

Prayer

9. WHEREFORE, premises considered, it is most respectfully prayed that the Honorable Commission on Elections, after due consideration and verification, issue an Order:

- (a) Finding the Petition for Initiative to be sufficient in form and substance;
- (b) Directing the publication of the Petition for Initiative in Filipino and English

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at least twice in newspapers of general and local circulation; and

(c) Calling a plebiscite to be held not earlier than sixty (60) nor later than ninety (90) days after the Certification by this Honorable Commission of the sufficiency of this Petition for Initiative, to allow the Filipino people to express their sovereign will on the proposition.

_____, Philippines. _____

Counsel for Petitioners _____,
_____, _____,
_____, _____

Address1

Address2

Address3
No. _____
IBP No. _____
PTR No. _____

VERIFICATION/CERTIFICATION

We, _____, _____, _____,
_____, and _____, Filipinos citizens and registered voters,
under oath, depose and say:

1. That we are the proponents of this Petition;
2. That as proponents we have been authorized to cause the filing of this Petition, and pursuant to said authority we caused the preparation of the present Petition;
3. That as proponents, we have read the contents of this Petition and the allegations therein are true of our own personal knowledge or based on authentic records;
4. That as proponents, we have not theretofore commenced any other action or proceeding involving the same issues in the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals or any other tribunal or agency; that to the best of my knowledge, no such action or proceeding is pending in the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, or any other tribunal or agency; and that if we should thereafter learn that a similar action or proceeding has been filed or is pending before the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, or any other tribunal or agency, we undertake to report that fact within five (5) days therefrom to the court or agency wherein the original pleading and sworn certification contemplated herein have been filed.

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Affiant

Affiant

Affiant

Affiant

Affiant

JURAT

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me at _____ on _____,
by affiants as follows:

Identification

Comm. Tax Cert. No. Place/Date of Issue

Doc. No. ____:

Page No. ____:

Book No. ____:

Series of _____