

Election Law and the 2025 Elections 20 Updates



Atty. Alberto C. Agra

Law Professor and Bar Reviewer, Election Law,
Local Government Law and Administrative Law

Advocate, Election Law-for-All

Author, Ballot Unboxed Newsletter

Host, Batas et AL – 2025 Election Series

Former Public Servant, Acting Secretary of Justice,
Acting Solicitor General, Government Corporate Counsel
and Chairman of the Philippine Reclamation Authority



1. Suffrage

Before, one can be imprisoned for not voting. Today, suffrage is a right.



2. Regular Elections

Philippine elections must be held regularly and can only postponed by law or by authority of law.



3. **Aspirants and Candidates**

There are no candidates today, only aspirants.

4. Incumbents

Incumbent Elective Officials running for any Elective Office are not deemed resigned but appointive officials are.



5. Qualifications

Congress can change the qualifications of local elective officials, not national officials.



6. Disqualifications

COMELEC can declare a candidate a nuisance, cancel a certificate of candidacy and disqualify a candidate.

7. Substitution

Today, up to election day, an affiliated aspirant/ candidate can be substituted only on account of death and disqualification.



8. Party-List System

I can be a nominee of a Women's Party and serve as its Party-List Representative even if said Party obtains less than 2% of 2nd votes.



9. Electoral Offices

Aside from COMELEC, there are Courts, Electoral Tribunals and Administrative Agencies.



10. Campaign by Public Officials

Elective Officials can campaign while Appointive Officials, save Cabinet Secretaries, cannot.

11. Campaign by Voters

A voter need not follow the requirements for 2' x 3' posters, 3' x 8' rally streamers and 8.5''W x 14''L printed materials.

12. Campaign

Giving *ayuda* by public officials may or may not be considered campaigning or vote-buying but regardless of purpose, cannot be distributed from May 2 to 12, 2025.



13. Quad-Media Campaign

The use of tri-media in campaigning is expressly allowed and regulated by statute, while social media is not.

14. Billboards

For the very first time, putting up billboards are expressly allowed by COMELEC, while giving away shirts and gadgets requires COMELEC approval.



15. Public Funds for Public Works

As a rule, public funds cannot be disbursed for public works, social services and housing related projects.



16. Election Offenses

The Gun Ban and Suspension Ban for LGU Elected Officials are already effective while the Prohibitions on Vote-Buying, Fund-Raising, Giving of Donations, Coercion of Subordinates and Giving Free Food and Drinks during rallies are not yet effective.



17. Expenditures

If there are 70M voters, a Senatorial candidate affiliated to a political party can only spend as much as P210M.



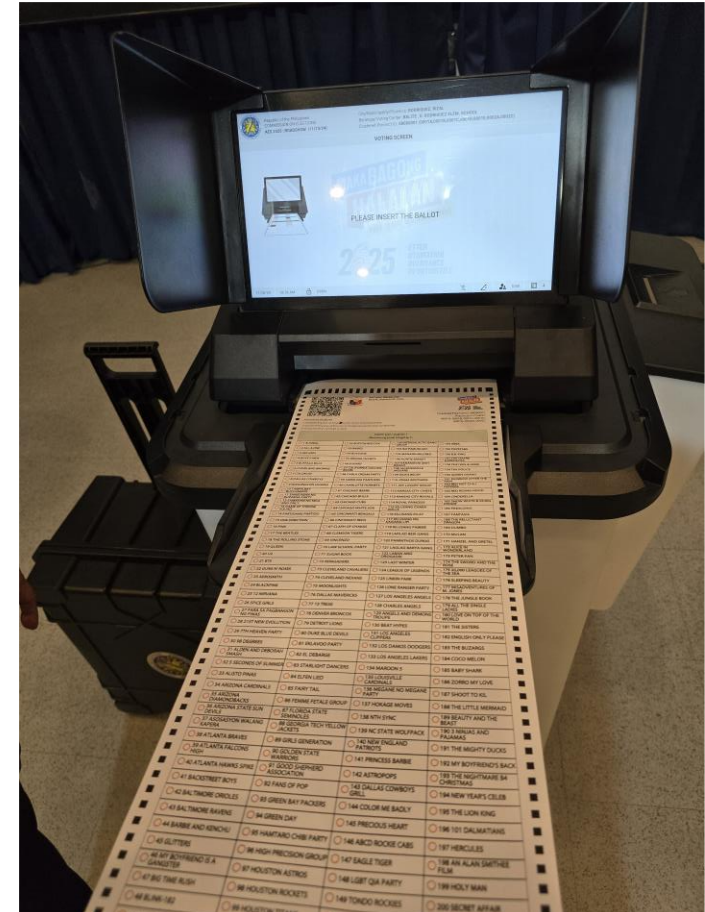
18. Voting Hours

Regular voting hours on Election Day is from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., but Seniors and PWDs can vote as early as 5:00 a.m..

19. Automated Counting Machine



The ACM has a big screen where you can see/ check who you voted for. It also prints a VVPAT.





20. Election Returns

Election Returns have QR Codes, will be transmitted to Stakeholders and will be given to 10 Political Parties.

 www.albertocagra.com

 09175353823

 alberto agra

 attyagra

 alberto.c.agra@gmail.com

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