

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2259, June 19, 1959 ]**

**AN ACT MAKING ELECTIVE THE OFFICES OF MAYOR, VICE-MAYOR AND COUNCILORS IN CHARTERED CITIES, REGULATING THE ELECTION IN SUCH CITIES AND FIXING THE SALARIES AND TENURE OF SUCH OFFICES.**

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

SECTION 1. The offices of Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and members of the city council or municipal board in all chartered cities in the Philippines which are now filled by appointment are hereby declared elective.

SEC. 2. The Mayor, Vice-Mayor and Councilors shall be elected at large by the qualified voters of the city on the date of the elections for provincial and municipal officials in conformity with the provisions of the Revised Election Code: *Provided, however,* That the qualified voters of cities shall vote or shall not vote for officials as their respective charters provide, in the cities of Iloilo and Dagupan where the said voters shall not vote for provincial officials.

The newly elected city officials shall assume office on first day of January following their elections, and upon qualifying, shall hold office for four years and until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified unless sooner removed or suspended for cause, as provided by law.

SEC. 3. The position of Vice-Mayor is hereby created in chartered cities which at present have no position for Vice-Mayor by provision of their corporate charters: *Provided,* That the Vice-Mayor shall be the presiding officer of the City Council or Municipal Board in all chartered cities.

The Vice-Mayor shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the mayor in the event of the latter's inability to discharge the powers and duties of his office. In the event of a permanent vacancy in the office of mayor, the vice-mayor shall become mayor for the completion of the unexpired term. If the Vice-Mayor is temporarily incapacitated for the performance of his official duties, the councilor who received the highest number of votes in the last election shall serve as acting Vice-Mayor; and in the event of such inability of the elected Mayor, the Vice-Mayor is, for any reason temporarily incapacitated for the performance of the duties of the Mayor, or the office of the Vice-Mayor is vacant, the Councilor who received the highest number of votes in the last election, shall serve as Acting Mayor and while so serving shall not perform any duty as a member of the council but shall continue to hold the office of Councilor. In such event, the remaining members of the Council shall elect from among themselves the presiding officer. For service as Acting Mayor or Acting Vice-Mayor, the Vice-Mayor or Councilor shall receive a total compensation equivalent to the salary of the Mayor or Acting Vice-Mayor, as the case may be,