

**[ BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 231, September 11, 1982 ]**

**AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS ON  
PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

*Be it enacted by the Batasang Pambansa in session assembled:*

SECTION 1. *Exercise of presidential powers by the Executive Committee.*— (1) If, at the time fixed for the beginning of his term, the President-elect shall have died or shall have failed to qualify or if the President shall not have been chosen, the Executive Committee, headed by the Prime Minister, shall exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the President until a President shall have been elected and qualified. If the Batasang Pambansa withdraws its confidence in the Prime Minister, the Speaker shall preside over the Executive Committee.

(2) In case of permanent disability, death, removal from office or resignation of the President, the Executive Committee, headed by the Prime Minister, shall exercise the powers of the President until a President shall have been elected and qualified.

SEC. 2. *Exercise of presidential powers by the Speaker.*—In the absence of an Executive Committee, the Speaker of the Batasang Pambansa shall act as President until a President shall have been elected and qualified.

As used in this section, absence of an Executive Committee means that said body has not been constituted; or if constituted, it is no longer existing; or if existing, it cannot for any reason discharge its functions.

SEC. 3. *Batasang Pambansa to call special election and to fix date thereof.*— (1) In the event of death, before the beginning of his term or failure of the President-elect to qualify, the Batasang Pambansa shall, within thirty days from the time the vacancy occurs, call a special election to elect a President on a date which shall not be earlier than forty-five days nor later than sixty days from such call.

(2) If the permanent disability, death, removal from office or resignation of the President occurs earlier than eighteen (18) months before the expiration of his term, the Batasang Pambansa shall, within thirty days from the time the vacancy occurs, call a special election to elect a President on a date which shall not be earlier than forty-five days nor later than sixty days from such call.

SEC. 4. *Convening of the Batasang Pambansa.*—On the third day after the vacancy occurs, the Batasang Pambansa shall convene in accordance with its rules without need of a call to enact a law providing for the holding of a special election in accordance with Section three hereof.

SEC. 5. *Policy during transition.*—In the event of vacancy in the office of President, the Batasang Pambansa, the Executive Committee, and the Commission on Elections, in the exercise of their respective functions, shall take the necessary steps to insure the holding of an election for President.