



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
April 12, 2019

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 2019-55

TO : **PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY MAYORS, MUNICIPAL MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE SANGGUNIANS, CHIEF MINISTER OF THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (BARMM), BARMM MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

SUBJECT : **PROHIBITION ON THE PRESENCE OF LOCAL ELECTIVE OFFICIALS DURING THE CONDUCT OF PAYOUTS OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

Section 261 (i) of Batas Pambansa Bilang 881, otherwise known as the Omnibus Election Code of the Philippines, particularly on the *intervention of public officers and employees*, prohibits their participation in election campaign or any partisan political activity, whether directly or indirectly, during the election period. This prohibition, however, does not apply to political offices.

Notwithstanding such exception, Section 4 (a) of Republic Act No. 6713, otherwise known as Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees, imposes upon every public official and employee to uphold public interest over and above personal interest. It further provides that all government resources and powers of their respective offices must be employed and used efficiently, effectively, honestly and economically, particularly to avoid wastage in public funds and revenues.

Recent reports from other national government agencies have reached this Department stating that some local elective officials are exerting undue influence during payouts of government programs and activities, for the purpose of indirectly endorsing their candidacy or other candidates, during this election campaign period.

In view of this, all local elective officials are enjoined to strictly observe the high standards of personal conduct in the discharge and execution of their official duties, to include non-interference during the conduct of the abovementioned activities, as the same should not be used as a platform to advance political interests.

Likewise, all local elective officials are hereby enjoined to refrain from appearing in the payouts of government programs and activities as these activities must be conducted solely for the benefit and welfare of their constituents.

All DILG Regional Directors and BARMM Minister of Local Government are hereby directed to cause the widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular within their areas of jurisdiction.


EDUARDO M. AÑO,
Secretary

