

EXTENDING THE NATIONAL REGISTRATION WEEK FOR FIRST-TIME VOTERS

PROCLAMATION NO. 476, September 22, 2003

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WHEREAS, the role of the youth in nation building and the need to uphold and protect the rights of the Filipino Youth have been consistently recognized;

WHEREAS, the COMELEC has scheduled the resumption of registration from 04 August 2003 until 31 October 2003;

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 430 declared the third week of October as the National Registration Week for first-time voters;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Kabataan National Federation, through its President, Mr. Ariel Joseph Arcillas, requested an extension of the National Registration Week until the fourth week of October 2003;

WHEREAS, the COMELEC has considered the extension as an occasion to give meaning and importance to the political exercise and as an apt conclusion to the period of registration which has been set only until 31 October 2003.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare the Third and Fourth Weeks of October 2003 as the National Registration Weeks for first-time voters.

All Filipino youth who will be eighteen (18) years old on or before May 10, 2004 are hereby enjoined to register.

The COMELEC, all government agencies, non-government organizations, mass media, sectoral groups and individuals are also hereby enjoined to conduct information campaign to encourage the youth to register, observe and mark this week.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 22nd day of September, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

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