

## GMA Allies Will Remain the Majority

Contributed by Political Reform Team  
Wednesday, 09 May 2007

GMA allies will still control the majority in the coming 14th Congress. An IPD study on the congressional races shows that most of the would be congressmen and congresswomen are allied with the administration. Out of the total 218 legislative districts throughout the country, as high as 160 seats will be on the hands GMA allies while the remaining 58 legislative districts will be captured by the opposition. In more than half of the single member districts (130 races) there is 'no contest' at all. This is because either the candidates are running unopposed or the opponents are too weak to pose any threat. Thus it is only in 88 legislative districts where real competition will happen. It is in these areas where at this point, no single candidate has clear and wide advantage over their rivals.

Of the 130 sure winners, 97 are allied with GMA and 33 are allied with the opposition. Meanwhile of the 88 races where contests are real, the odds seems to favor the opposition in 25 legislative districts. These include the contest in Makati's second district where Atty. Abigail Binay - the daughter of Mayor Jejomar has slight edge over Erwin Genuino, son of Philippine Amusement and Games Corporation (Pagcor) Chair Efraim Genuino. Rep. Darlene Antonino Custodio also has an edge over her rival boxing champion Manny Pacquiao despite of the latter's popularity and money. From the considered 'sure winners', the opposition has the likes of Rep. Gilbert Remulla from the second district of Cavite and Rep. Roilo Golez of Paranaque.

### LIST OF OPPOSITION BETS WHO COULD BE PART OF 14TH CONGRESS\*

From IPD Mapping of Legislative Districts

As of 21 April 2007 SURE WINNERS WITH GOOD FIGHTING

CHANCE Name District/Province Name District/Province 1 Vincent Crisolago 1st Dist. Quezon City 1 Oscar Malapitan 1st Dist. Caloocan City 2 Ronaldo Zamora Lone Dist. San Juan 2 Edgar Erice 2nd Dist. Caloocan City 3 Roilo Golez 2nd Dist. Paranaque 3 Abigail Binay 2nd Dist. Makati City 4 Teodoro Locsin Jr. 1st Dist. Makati City 4 Zeneida Angping 3rd Dist. Manila City 5 Ruffy Biazon Lone Dist. Muntinlupa 5 Toots Bacani 4th Dist. Manila City 6 Jaime Lopez 2nd Dist. Manila City 6 Estelita Hizon 5th Dist. Manila City 7 Lani Cayetano 1st Dist. Taguig-Pateros 7 Romy Cosalan Lone Dist. Benguet 8 Cynthia Villar Lone Dist. Las Pinas 8 Benjie Lim 4th Dist. Pangasinan 9 Elias Bulut Lone Dist. Apayao 9 Giorgini Aggabao 4th Dist. Isabela 10 Solomon Chungalao Lone Dist. Ifugao 10 Carlos Padilla Lone Dist. Nueva Vizcaya 11 Roque Ablan 1st Dist. Ilocos Norte 11 Tong Payumo 1st Dist. Bataan 12 Ferdinand Marcos Jr. 2nd Dist. Ilocos Norte 12 Feliciano Bartolome Lone Dist. SJDM City 13 Manuel Mamba 3rd Dist. Cagayan 13 Eduardo Nonato Joson 1st Dist. Nueva Ecija 14 Edgardo Angara Jr. Lone Dist. Aurora 14 Benjamin Agarao Jr. 4th Dist. Laguna 15 Annayork Bondoc 4th Dist. Pampanga 15 Joseph Abaya 1st Dist. Cavite 16 Dan Fernandez 1st Dist. Laguna 16 Jesus Crispin Remulla 3rd Dist. Cavite 17 Justin Timmy Chipeco 2nd Dist. Laguna 17 Liwayway Vinzons-Chato Lone Dist. Camarines Norte 18 Gilbert Remulla 2nd Dist. Cavite 18 Arnulfo Fuentabella 3rd Dist. Camarines Sur 19 Hermilando Mandanas 2nd Dist. Batangas 19 Raman Nava Lone Dist. Guimaras 20 Ricky Recto 4th Dist. Batangas 20 Neil Jun-Jun Tupas 5th Dist. Iloilo 21 Preceso Alcala 2nd Dist. Quezon 21 Jose Manuel Dabao 6th Dist. Negros Occidental 22 Erin Tañada 4th Dist. Quezon 22 Josie Lim Quichong 1st Dist. Negros oriental 23 Alfonso Umali Jr. 2nd Dist. Oriental Mindoro 23 Paul Daza 1st Dist. Northern Samar 24 Salvador Escudero 1st Dist. Sorsogon 24 Darlene Antonino-Custodio 1st Dist. South Cotabato 25 Vicente Bermejo 1st Dist. Capiz 25 Rufus Rodriguez 2nd Dist. Cagayan de Oro City 26 Malu Acosta 1st Dist. Bukidnon 27 Teofisto Guingona III 2nd Dist. Bukidnon 28 Ernie Clarete 1st Dist. Misamis Occidental 29 Rene Elias Lopez 3rd Dist. Davao City 30 Franklin Bautista 2nd Dist. Davao del Sur 31 Arthur Pinggoy 2nd Dist. South Cotabato 32 Rodolfo Plaza Lone Dist. Agusan del Sur 33 Didagen Dilangalen Lone Dist. Sharif Kabunsuan

\* Initial assessment, for further validation.

The IPD mapping of legislative districts considered several key factors in its assessment of likely outcomes. One is the performance in previous elections, especially of candidates who ran for office in 2001 and 2004. Second, is the relative strength/weakness of the candidates based on assessments of political operators on the ground. Third, are views from leaders of some political parties. Fourth, are the alignments of politically influential families at the district and provincial level. Fifth and finally, the voting pattern of the electorate at the local level. Based on these data, a team of IPD research associates assessed the chances of each and every candidate in every legislative district.

While GMA allies are poised to dominate the 14th Congress, an impeachment is still possible. The minimum 58 seats that will likely be captured by the opposition do not yet include the seats that will be won by non-administration party-list groups. Granting that these party-list groups can maintain the same level of representation of 13 seats on to the 14th Congress, then an impeachment complaint can easily be endorsed by 71 opposition legislators. A figure that only needs ten more for an impeachment compliant to be forwarded to the Senate without the going through the debates at the House Committee on Justice.

The possibility of an impeachment in the next Congress seem to also explain the squid tactics that the administration has adopted against the opposition and progressive party-list groups, especially those who have supported the impeachment complaints in 2005 and 2006. GMA administration wants to fend off impeachment threats this early.