



LEARN ABOUT EXEMPTED SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS FOR THE 2025 NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS (NLE)

In a letter dated July 16, 2025, the Legal Network for Truthful Elections (LENTE) recommended that the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) publicly release the list of exempted social welfare programs and other local government projects approved by the Commission, particularly in the lead-up to the 2025 National and Local Elections (NLE) and the first BARMM Parliamentary Elections.

This recommendation forms part of LENTE’s ongoing study (2023–2025) examining how COMELEC grants exemptions for social welfare and other LGU projects during the 2016, 2019, 2022, and 2025 elections. A key challenge encountered in this research has been limited access to documents related to exemption requests and approvals.

LENTE believes that making these records publicly available is vital to strengthening transparency and accountability in electoral governance. Open access to such data allows citizens, media, and civil society organizations to scrutinize the basis of exemptions, detect possible misuse of government resources during the election period, and reinforce public trust—especially in BARMM’s first and historic parliamentary elections, where credibility and fairness are essential.

We thank the Commission on Elections for its continued partnership and openness to collaborate on critical electoral reforms with LENTE. We also commend COMELEC’s ongoing initiatives to promote transparency and accountability, including its firm stance against the abuse of state resources and vote-buying, as well as its efforts to make election-related information and case statuses publicly accessible.

**Access the Exempted Social Welfare Programs in
Connection With the 2025 National and Local
Elections by clicking the PDF Icon**



Note: All personal and sensitive information is redacted in compliance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and applicable COMELEC Resolution/s.