



Republic of the Philippines
Judicial and Bar Council
Manila

RESOLUTION No. JBC 04-2022

Resolution Providing for the Suspension of the Three-year Validity Period of the Pre-Judicature Program as Provided Under Section 2, Rule 3, Paragraph 3 of the 2020 Revised Rules of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC No. 2020-01)

WHEREAS, the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) is mandated by the Constitution and pertinent laws to recommend appointees to positions in the Judiciary, the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Legal Education Board (LEB). Under this mandate, the JBC shall provide rules and guidelines in the selection and nomination of applicants, as well as the conduct of the entire process of application and shall update the same whenever necessary or as may be required by circumstances;

WHEREAS, on 21 May 2020, the JBC promulgated its *Revised Rules*, JBC No. 2020-01, which became effective on 8 June 2021; and later on amended through JBC Resolution No. 3-2021 including the provision on the validity period of three (3) years for the Pre-Judicature Program (PJP);

WHEREAS, in the JBC Special En Banc Meeting on 1 April 2022 attended by officials and representatives of the Philippine Judicial Academy (PHILJA), the Council **resolved** to **suspend** the validity period of the PJP while studies are being undertaken to assess the impact of the said provision on the overall application process and for the duration that PHILJA is 1) addressing the growing number of judicial applicants; 2) introducing more stringent standards to upgrade the quality of prospective judges; and 3) adopting more responsive mechanisms to erase backlog in the PJP programs;

WHEREFORE, the Council **RESOLVES**, as it is hereby resolved, to **suspend** the three-year validity period of the Pre-Judicature Program.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

7 April 2022.



ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO

Chief Justice and JBC *Ex Officio* Chairperson




MENARDO I. GUEVARRA

Secretary of Justice and JBC *Ex Officio* Vice Chairperson



RICHARD J. GORDON

Chairperson of the Committee on Justice
and Human Rights of the Senate of the Philippines
and JBC *Ex Officio* Member Representing Congress



VICENTE S.E. VELOSO III

Chairperson of the Committee on Justice
and Human Rights of the House of Representatives
and JBC *Ex Officio* Member Representing Congress



JOSE CATRAL MENDOZA

JBC Regular Member Representing the
Retired Members of the Supreme Court



TORIBIO E. ILAOG, JR.

JBC Regular Member Representing the
Private Sector



NOEL GIMENEZ TIJAM

JBC Regular Member Representing the
Academe



FRANKLIN J. DEMONTEVERDE

JBC Regular Member Representing the
Integrated Bar of the Philippines