

## The Unconstitutional Commission

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Professor Jacinto Jimenez, in this Article, provides a number of reasons why the creation of the Metropolitan Manila Commission is unconstitutional.

He reviews the decisions of the Supreme Court in the consolidated cases of *Lopez v. COMELEC* and *Lopez, et al. v. Metropolitan Manila Commission*, and concludes the same to be based on shaky grounds. Firstly, he opines that the referendum held for the purpose of creating the Commission is invalid. Thus, the residents of Greater Manila cannot be deemed to have ratified the creation of the Commission when not a single provision of the Presidential Decree No. 824, supposedly the specific proposal for its creation, had been drafted during the referendum.

Other grounds cited for the body's unconstitutionality include loss of autonomy of local government units (LGUs), limitation of political subdivisions, coordination of LGUs, and their consequent loss of power to tax.