

QC officials urge further study on Charter change

By **RICO C. NAVARRO**

Members of the Quezon City Council urged yesterday both Houses of Congress to be cautious in amending the 1987 Constitution and urged them to create a Charter which will solve the problems of poverty and suit the needs and culture of the Filipino people.

Led by Majority Floor Leader Ariel Inton, the councilors said Congress should scrutinize everything or thoroughly study the change of government from presidential to parliamentary and "we should not copy the form of government of other countries."

To create a better Charter, he urged government leaders to look for Charter changes which will solve or put an end to the worsening problems of poverty in the country.

He recalled that during the time of President Ferdinand Marcos,

the Philippines' system of government was changed from presidential to parliamentary, and when President Corazon Aquino took over, she restored the presidential form of government.

"Napalitan natin ang sistema pero wala pa ring nangyari sa bansa natin. Lalo pang naghirap ang bansa natin at ang Pilipino, lalo pang nalugmok sa kahirapan," he explained.

Inton proposed a type of government with more local participation like the local government units (LGUs), to bring government closer to the people and help the poor alleviate their living standard.

The debate in the political arena on the proposed Charter changes continues today and people are waiting for a system of government which would help them cope with their daily lives and escape poverty, Inton said.

* charter change
* Constitution