

Malaysians Abroad May Be Allowed To Vote, But With Conditions

Bernama

July 11, 2012

PUTRAJAYA, July 11 (Bernama) -- Malaysians residing abroad, besides students and civil servants, and their spouses, will be allowed to vote this coming general election if they have been back in the country over the last five years prior to the dissolution of Parliament.

Election Commission (EC) Chairman Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Yusof said that would be the additional requirement, besides being a registered voters and having applied to be a postal voter, for Malaysians abroad to vote to ensure they knew about the country's political development.

"We are studying the matter and if it requires any change in the law, it will be brought to Parliament in the coming session to start in September," he told reporters at a briefing session with the media here Wednesday.

Abdul Aziz said such a requirement had been implemented by countries like Singapore, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Currently, he said, only full-time Malaysian students and civil servants, as well as their spouses, staying abroad were allowed to be postal voters.

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Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/newsindex.php?id=679729>