

Panfilo “Ping” Lacson, #33

Former Senator

as of Feb. 5, 2025



Age and date of birth: 76 (June 1, 1948)

Party: Independent

Highest Educational Attainment: Master in Government Management, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (1995 - 1996)

Highest Government Position Held: Senator

Summary:

Lacson wants to continue his work in fighting all forms of corruption, particularly the abuse and misuse of congressional insertions or pork barrel. He promises to focus on legislation relevant to the military, police and marginalized sectors.

Stance on Key Issues

On Poverty, Controlling Inflation and Jobs

- Pushing for “Edukasyon Plus” program, providing free tuition, monthly allowance and internship programs for students to alleviate dropout rates and consequently, poverty
- Vows to focus on providing employment opportunities and capacity building as an integral part of social welfare programs to minimize the need for subsidies

On Fighting Graft and Corruption

- Proposes that all public officials be exempt from the Bank Secrecy Act to promote transparency
- Calls for a stop to overregulation of businesses that has led to corruption with public officials demanding money under the table

On West Philippine Sea

- Advocates an independent foreign policy where the country does not sway towards China or the United States, while banding together with nations in the region that have similar interests as the Philippines

On The Drug War

- Says operations for Duterte’s war on drugs were prostituted by the rewards system that paid authorities for every drug suspect captured

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Stance on Key Issues

On Disaster-preparedness

- Wants a shift in the strategy for disaster preparedness from reactive to proactive to prevent the tendency to act only when calamities strike
- Questions unspent funds for disaster risk reduction, stressing the need to use these on projects that boost resilience to catastrophes and emergencies

Government Experience/Field of Expertise

- Chairman, PNP Foundation Inc., (2008 - present)
- Senator (2001 - 2013; 2016 - 2022)
 - Republic Act (RA) No. 11055, the National ID Law
 - RA No. 11479, The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020
 - RA No. 11469, the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act
 - RA No. 11053, the Anti-Hazing Law of 2018
 - RA No. 11709, Strengthening Professionalism in the Armed Forces of the Philippines
 - RA No. 9485, the Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007
 - RA 10969, the Free Irrigation Act on Law of 2018
- Presidential assistant on rehabilitation and recovery (2013 - 2015)
- Chief, Philippine National Police (Nov. 1999 - Jan. 2001)
- Chief, Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force (1998 - 2001)
- Project officer, Special Project Alpha (1996 - 1997)
- Chief, Task Force Habagat, PACC (1992 - 1995)
- Provincial director, Laguna, PNP (February - July 1992)
- Commander, Cebu Metrodiscom (1989 - 1992)
- Provincial commander, Isabela PC (1988 - 1989)
- PC-INP Anti Carnapping Task Force (1986 - 1988)
- Metrocom Intelligence and Security Group (1971 - 1986)

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Issues and Controversies

- Charged as principal to the 1995 murder of 11 Kuratong Baleleng gang members but case was dismissed in 2012 for lack of probable cause
- Accused of being the brains behind the murders of publicist Salvador “Bubby” Dacer and his driver, Emmanuel Corbito, then fled to Hong Kong in 2010; returned after the Court of Appeals cleared him from all charges, insisting his escape was legal and necessary to avoid “harassment” from the Department of Justice and then president Gloria Macapagal Arroyo
- Was part of an elite torture group during martial law, according to historian Alfred McCoy, but has denied this

Family Members in Government

- None