

POLITICAL DOWRY: REASONS FOR RESTRICTION, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND PREVENTIONS

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Abstract: The issues related to political dowry are interminable. This interminability is the result of an indication of political dowry every time a general election or local election is held. Based on that background, this article describes the political dowry's detailed problems. In the beginning, the writer describes the definition of political dowry and its differences from political cost, the reasons for the restrictions, and the law enforcement on political dowry. It ended with some efforts to prevent political dowry. It is found that the definition of political dowry is different from political cost. The regulations restrict the practice of political dowry, but not for the political cost. The political dowry is restricted by law because it is against the national law's interest, which is the interest to have qualified and fair general elections and local elections. Heretofore, there is no legal punishment for the practice of political dowry due to the difficulty to prove the practice. There are some efforts to prevent the practice of political dowry: First, giving intensive supervision from The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) and its subdivisions; Second, revising the regulations in the Law of the Local elections for nominating the candidates; Third, revising the regulations in the law of political parties for nominating the candidates of the president and local government; Fourth, assigning the time limitation for the political parties to accept the political cost; and Fifth, enhancing the legal awareness of all parties involving in the practice of general elections or local elections.

Keywords: Political Dowry; Political Cost; General Election; Local Election

Abstrak: Isu mengenai mahar politik sepertinya tidak ada habis-habisnya. Isu tersebut menyeruak karena adanya indikasi praktik mahar politik itu terjadi setiap penyelenggaraan pemilu ataupun pilkada. Dilatarbelangi oleh keadaan tersebut, melalui karya ilmiah ini akan digambarkan seluk beluk dari masalah mahar politik tersebut. Pada bagian awal akan menggambarkan pengertian dari mahar politik dan perbedaannya dengan ongkos politik (cost politics), lalu dilanjutkan dengan alasan dilarangnya praktik mahar politik itu, penegakan hukum dalam perkara mahar politik, dan diakhiri dengan upaya untuk mengatasinya. Dari penelaahan yang dilakukan diketahui bahwa pengertian mahar politik itu tidak sama atau berbeda dengan ongkos politik, yang dilarang dalam legislation adalah praktik mahar politik, ongkos politik tidak dilarang. Alasan praktik mahar politik itu dilarang dalam legislation adalah karena perbuatan itu menyerang kepentingan hukum negara, yakni kepentingan dalam rangka terlaksananya pemilu ataupun pilkada yang adil dan berkualitas. Sejauh

ini belum ada penjatuhan pidana terhadap praktik mahar politik, di mana hal tersebut dikarenakan sulitnya membuktikan praktik tersebut. Beberapa upaya yang dapat dilakukan untuk mengatasi praktik mahar politik itu adalah: pertama, mengintensifkan pengawasan Bawaslu dan jajarannya; kedua, merevisi aturan tentang pencalonan dalam Undang-Undang Pilkada; ketiga, merevisi aturan tentang rekrutmen pencalonan presiden dan kepala daerah dalam Undang-Undang Partai Politik; keempat, menetapkan batas waktu partai politik boleh menerima ongkos politik; dan kelima, meningkatkan kesadaran hukum semua pihak yang terlibat dalam penyelenggaraan pemilu atau pilkada.

Kata kunci: Mahar Politik; Ongkos Politik; Pemilu; Pilkada

INTRODUCTION

The issues of political dowry have been spread in every general election, even in legislative elections, municipal elections, and presidential elections. Political dowry or dowry is an amount of money asked by a political party to a person who wants his party involved in a general election to give him a bandwagon or recommendation to nominate him as a candidate of the legislature, head of local government candidate, or presidential candidate.

The transaction of negotiation on the dowry usually occurs in the nomination stage. The amount of the dowry usually depends on the number of ballots in the political party in the legislative general election or the number of seats in the legislative department. The more the amount of the ballots in the legislative general election or the more the number of

seats in the legislative department, the bigger the political dowry.

The former regent candidate of Sumenep, East Java, Ahmad Yunus who volunteered himself in the 2020 local election had admitted this political dowry. Yunus failed to get a recommendation from a political party because he could not afford the political dowry appointed by the party. "Yes, it is. The political dowry or buying a seat in a party exist. It is about a hundred million for a seat, moreover, it can cost a billion for a seat," admitted Yunus when having an interview with the journalist of *Media Indonesia*, Ahmad Mustain, in Journalist on Duty broadcasted through IG Live of @mediaindonesia, Monday night on September 21st, 2020.¹

When this matter is confirmed to the political parties, each political party will immediately turn down the

¹Thomas Harning Suwantara, *Mahar Politik Hambat Calon Berkualitas Tampil di Pilkada*,

<https://mediaindonesia.com>, September 22nd, 2020.

existence of this practice in its nomination for legislative members, local governments, or presidents. Even if they have asked for an amount of money, they consider it is not a political dowry but a political cost, such as money for witnesses, and campaign expenses paid by the candidate; even though the total amount is immoderate for paying witnesses and other campaign expenses. As admitted by La Nyala Mattaliti, to be nominated as a governor of East Java, he was requested to give forty billion rupiahs as a requirement to obtain support from the party of Gerindra in the 2018 local election. In reality, the cost for all witnesses in East Java for 68.000 polling places, if it is multiplied by 200,000 rupiahs per person, and then multiplied by two people equals 28 billion rupiahs.

Accordingly, is there any difference between political dowry and political cost which make it possible to accept the political cost but not for political dowry? The regulations in the Law restrict any political parties to receive any compensation in the presidential nomination process (Law Number 17 Year 2017 Article 228 section (1) concerning General election, afterward it is called the Law of General Election)

and in the regional head nomination process (Article 47 Law Number 1 Year 2015 concerning Government Regulations for Substituting Law Number 1 Year 2014 concerning Governor, Regent, and Mayor Elections Developed to Law, afterward it is called the Law of Local Election).

The sanction for the political parties that proven by the court with legal power charging the nomination process, both in presidential nomination (Article 228 section (2) the Law of General Election) and in the regional head nomination process (Article 47 section (2) the Law of Local Election) is that they are restricted to nominate any candidate in the next election. Moreover, the sanction for the member of the political parties who receives the compensation in the regional head election is imprisonment for a minimum of 36 months and a maximum of 72 months, and a fine of at least Rp. 300 million and a maximum of Rp. 1 billion (Article 187B the law of Local election). However, the sanction for the member of the political party who receives the compensation in the presidential election is not regulated in the Law of General Election.

The legislation not only gives restrictions to political parties to

receive compensation but also gives restrictions to everyone or every institution to offer any form of compensation to the political parties in the nomination process. The sanction for everyone or institution that offers compensation to the political parties in the regional head nomination process is imprisonment for a minimum of 24 months and a maximum of 60 months, and a fine of at least Rp 300 million and a maximum of Rp 1 billion (Article 187C the law of Local Election). However, the sanction for everyone or institution that offers compensation to political parties in the presidential nomination process is not regulated in the Law of General Election.

Therefore, this paper is intended to answer the question of whether the political dowry is different from the political cost, whether offering and receiving the compensation are only restricted in the legislation for political dowry but not for political cost, what the reasons for the restriction of offering and receiving the compensation/political dowry are, how criminal law enforcement in the case of offering and receiving the compensation/political dowry which caused an interminable problem in

every general election, and the preventions to solve that problem.

METHOD

The method in this study uses empirical legal research. The types of data used are primary data and secondary data. The primary data are from interviews, and the secondary data are from the Laws of General Elections and Local Elections.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Compensation: Definition, Scope, and Reasons for Restriction

The definition of compensation (in Indonesian: *imbalan*) is not explained in the Law of General election or the Law of Local election. The explanations of the laws and the meaning of compensation are obvious enough. Based on the Indonesian dictionary (*Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia-KBBI*), compensation means a response (*balasan*) (in the form of compliment, punishment, and others) to any action. Another meaning of compensation (*imbalan*) is a reward of a payback.

Connected to the definition of compensation (*imbalan*) in the Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), the

restriction of offering and receiving compensation means it is prohibited for everyone or institution to offer any form of compensation, which is further called political dowry, and to the political parties to receive any form of compensation in nominating a candidate. Hence, the restriction is for the action of offering and receiving compensation for the sake of nomination.

The action of offering and receiving the political cost in the form of fees for witnesses and other campaign expenses is different from the definition of compensation. The political cost in the form of fees for the witnesses and campaign expenses is for paying the witnesses in every stage of voting and vote counting; furthermore, the campaign expenses are for the facilitation and installation of media for the general election in the campaign stage. Hence, the political cost is not for nomination purposes. As the result, it can be said that the political dowry and the political cost are different in their purposes. The political dowry is for the nomination, but the political

cost is for the voting, vote counting, and campaign excluded from the nomination process.

Therefore, not included as compensation, the political cost is not restricted,² because the one that is restricted by both the Law of General Election and the Law of Local Election is the practice of offering and receiving any form of compensation in the presidential and regional nomination process. It means that offering and receiving the political cost is allowed for every person or institution and political party.

Derived from the definition of the compensation (*imbalan*), it is reasonable that political parties are not afraid and guilty of receiving money from a person or an institution because that is a political cost, not a political dowry; yet, if this action becomes a disguise under the mask of the political cost, the political parties still receive the political dowry.

Due to the possibility of disguising the political dowry as the political cost, the issue of political dowry comes out every time a general election or local

²Although it is not prohibited, the action of offering and receiving donation (political cost) to political parties from a person or an institution, especially for the campaign, is regulated in the Law of General Elections and the Law of Local Elections related to the

amount of donation for the campaign allowed from a person and an institution including the procedures of the receiving and reporting. Consequently, a violation of some regulations is an election criminal.

election is held. As previously mentioned by La Nyala Mattaliti in the introduction, to be nominated as governor of East Java, he was asked for Rp. 40 billion as a requirement to get support from Gerindra in the 2018 local election. Even though, if it is calculated for witnesses' fees in East Java's 68,000 polling places throughout East Java, multiplied by Rp. 200,000 per person, and multiplied by two people, it is only Rp. 28 billion. Hence, there is a strong indication of political dowry in the request for Rp. 40 billion. That is just an illustration that offering and receiving something that is called political costs by the political parties, has changed into a political dowry issue.

Therefore, some efforts are needed to uncover the cases on the political dowry. The political costs in the form of witnesses' fees and campaign logistics costs as stated by the political parties that must be paid by the candidates should be calculated correctly, and the existence of overrun cost can be an indication of the restricted political dowry that have regulated by the Law of General

Election and the Law of Local Election.

Next, it is explaining the reasons why giving and receiving political dowry is prohibited in the legislation. Giving and receiving political dowry is prohibited for a reason. It is connected to a function of Criminal Law as explained by Adami Chazawi³, which is to protect the legal interests from an attack or a manipulation; therefore, the prohibition of giving and receiving political dowry is contrary to the interests of national law, which is the interests in the context of establishing a fair and qualified general election and local election.

If it is referred to the Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), fair is interpreted as equal, not partial, impartial, siding to the right and not arbitrary; Justice is defined as fair treatment of people; and, qualified is defined as something that has good quality. Concerning the definitions of fair and qualified from the Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), the fair and qualified general election and local election is defined as a general election and a local election that is impartial, not taking sides, having the

³Adami Chazawi, *Pelajaran Hukum Pidana* (Bagian 1), PT Rajagrafindo Persada, Jakarta, Ed. 8 2014, pp. 16-19.

right side, and not arbitrary; and, the general election and the local election which have good quality.

Based on those definitions, it is reasonable that the act of offering and receiving political dowry is prohibited in the legislation. The act of offering and receiving political dowry will affect the treatment and the attitude of the political parties that will be one-sided, partial, and not taken to the right in the nomination process for president or local government. These actions, of course, do not lead to or distance themselves from the implementation of good quality general elections and local elections.

The prohibition of the political dowry is supported by some practitioners because the political dowry can dissociate the general election from its fair and qualified supposed characteristics. The first supporting statement comes from Ratna Dewi Pettalolo, a member of The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*)⁴. According to Ratna, a democracy should give societies a lot of choices in choosing their leaders. However, the practice of political dowry potentially occurred for a single

candidate in the 2020 simultaneous local election. By offering the political dowry to the parties, the single candidate can buy up recommendations from entire parties, so that it can close the opportunity for other candidates because everything has been taken by the single candidate. Moreover, the Association for General Elections and Democracy (*Parludem*) has predicted that there is a single candidate in 31 regions who hold the 2020 Local election.

Ahmad Yunus, the former candidate for a regent in Sumenep, East Timur, also gives his statement. According to Ahmad Yunus, political dowry can prevent many qualified candidates from joining the local elections. Some capable leadership candidates often have to fail in the middle of the nomination process because they are unable to pay the requested political dowry. Ahmad Yunus was a former Sumenep Regent candidate who failed to become a Sumenep Regent candidate in the 2020 simultaneous local election because he

⁴Ratna Dewi Pettalolo, *Calon Tunggal Pilkada Berpotensi Beri Mahar Politik*,

<https://www.cnnindonesia.com>, August 28th, 2020.

was unable to pay the requested political dowry.⁵

Moreover, Delia Wildianti, a researcher at *Puskapol* UI, mentions the high political cost of the local election is unequal to the standard salary received by the regional heads, which will cause corruption. Delia also says, the number of expenses minimally includes four expenses which cause the high political cost of the local election. First, the cost for nomination; Second, campaign expenses such as campaign attributes, supporting members' fees, and the use of electronic and printed media; Third, the cost for consultation and doing a survey; Fourth, money politics like dawn attack (*serangan fajar*) that mostly done by the regional head candidates, donations for the voters, and others. Furthermore, the large amount of cost is related to the presence of witnesses on the day of vote counting. Based on research by FITRA, the budget for regency elections is about 5 to 28 billion, whereas the budget for provincial elections is about 60 to 78 billion. Due to a fairly large initial capital which is unequal to the standard income

received by the regional heads, the objective of the authority as the leaders will be how to return the initial capital. A governor, for example, only gets a salary of 8.6 million per month or a total of 516 million for five years, which is unequal to the budget he has to spend which reaches 60 to 78 billion. From the records of the Ministry of Home Affairs until 2016, there were 343 regents or mayors and 18 governors who were involved in corruption cases⁶. The corruption is assumed due to the objective of the regional heads' authority is to return the initial capital from the political cost.

2. Criminal Law Enforcement in the Case of Offering and Receiving Political dowry

Criminal law enforcement is a process of imposing a criminal sentence or a criminal punishment. Law enforcement for a crime of offering and receiving a political dowry means it imposes a criminal sentence or a criminal punishment to everyone or every institution offering the political dowry to the political parties, and to members of the parties who receive the political dowry.

⁵Thomas Harning Suwantara, *loc.cit.*

⁶Delia Wildianti, *Mabar Politik dan Korupsi Sistemik*, <https://www.puskapol.ui.ac.id>. January 30th, 2018.

As regulated in the Law of General Election dan the Law of Local Election article 228 section (2) the Law of General Election, article 47 section (2) the Law of Local Election, article 187B the law of Local election, and article 187C the law of Local Election, the criminal sentence or criminal punishment will be given to everyone and every institution offering the political dowry, and also to the political parties that proven guilty by the court with legal power. because of receiving the political dowry. The criminal sentence will also be given to members of the political parties who receive the political dowry in the nomination, both in the presidential nomination and the regional head nomination.

Heretofore, there is nobody or no institution that has been imposed with any criminal sentence for offering the political dowry; and vice versa, there is no political party or a member of the political party that has been imposed with any criminal sentence for receiving the political dowry. It is assumed that it becomes the reason why this issue arises every time a general election or local election is held; the absence of the criminal punishment for offering and receiving the political dowry creates fearlessness for every

person or institution, as well as the political parties and the members of the political parties to offer and receive the political dowry. If the criminal punishment is given properly and strictly, it is obvious that every person or institution, as well as the political parties and the members of the political parties, will be afraid to do the act of offering and receiving the political dowry, if for every act of giving and receiving political dowry so far, criminal sanctions are appropriate.

According to the statements from the practitioners, the cause for the absence of criminal punishment for offering and receiving the political dowry is the difficulty to prove the actions. It is difficult to prove the actions because the act of offering and receiving the political dowry tends to be accomplished privately and confidentially. Likewise, it is not only the political parties and the members of the political parties who receive the political dowry who will be subjected to the criminal punishment but also every person or institution that provides the political dowry, which makes proving the practice of the political dowry becomes more difficult due to the ones who give the political dowry tend to be

silent and furtive even if he must be disappointed.

Those are the problems faced in the process of the criminal law enforcement in the case of offering and receiving the political dowry. Due to the difficulty to prove the actions, it makes the unavailability of the criminal punishment for the act of offering and receiving the political dowry. there has been no act of giving and receiving political dowry that has been imposed with criminal sanctions. The absence of this criminal punishment has also brought a consequence, which is the issues keep spreading up every time the general election or local election is held.

3. The Preventions of Political Dowry

Finally, to prevent the practice of political dowry, some efforts must be taken. These are some efforts considered can prevent the practices of political dowry.

Giving intensive supervision from The General Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu) and its subdivisions

As mentioned by the practitioners related to the difficulty proving the practice of offering and receiving the political dowry because these activities

are done in silence and furtiveness as well as the sanctions will be given to the parties, the members, the people, and the institutions, which makes revealing the political dowry harder, The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) and its subordinates should intensively supervise the nomination processes, especially in the injury times of the nominations, because the practice of political dowry mostly happens at that time.

The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) and its subordinates should change the paradigm of supervision, mainly in monitoring the nomination processes. Heretofore, The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) and its subordinates were only waiting for a report on the practice of political dowry, then in the future, The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) and its subordinates can intensively supervise the processes.

Through supervision, they can reveal the practices of political dowry without waiting for the disclosures or reports from the ones who are disappointed with the practice of political dowry. It can be supported by the statement in the Law of The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) Number 8 Year 2020

concerning How to Overcome the Election Violations for the Nominations of Governors and Vice Governors, Regents and Vice Regents, as well as Mayors and Vice Mayors, which say to overcome the election violations is based on reports and The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*)'s discovery.

It has been expressed by Ratna Dewi Pettalolo that in the future The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) will cooperate with the Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (PPATK) because transactions are usually carried out through banking, and it should also be appreciated as an effort to overcome the practical problems of this political dowry.⁷

Revising the regulations in the Law of the Local elections for nominating the candidates

As stated in the previous section, The Association for Elections and Democracy (*Perludem*) predicts that there will be a single candidate in 31 regions for the 2020 simultaneous local elections. According to Ratna, the

practice of political dowry is potentially carried out by a single candidate by offering the political dowry to the political parties, the single candidate buys all recommendations from all political parties, thus it closes the opportunity for other candidates to obtain recommendations from the political parties. Ratna also mentions that democracy should provide many options for people to choose their leaders, which is not accomplished because of the practice of this political dowry.

To prevent the opportunity of political dowry which is carried out by a single candidate, some efforts must be implemented. One of the efforts is by revising the regulations or rules regarding nomination processes. The rules should be structured appropriately to make it impossible for a candidate for buying all the recommendations from the political parties to prevent the existence of a single candidate. It must be a limitation in which a candidate cannot get all recommendations from all political parties. At least, through this limitation,

⁷Ratna Dewi Pettalolo, *Mabar Politik Pencalonan Pilkada 2020*, <https://www.bawaslu.go.id>, September 1st, 2020.

the practice of political dowry by a candidate can be reduced.

The rules regarding candidacy in the current Law of General Election have limited it. The Presidential Election cannot be held if it is only a single candidate. Article 229 section (2) of the law of General election regulates that the General Elections Commission (KPU) rejects any registration of a pair of candidates if:

1. The registration of one pair of candidates by the accumulation of all political parties in the general elections; or
2. The registration of one pair of candidates by the accumulation of some political parties in general elections causes the accumulation of other political parties that cannot register their candidate pairs.

It is different from the Law of Local Election. The Law of Local Election does not limit a candidate to buy recommendations from all political parties. The local election can be held with the participation of a single candidate. The rules as regulated in Article 229 section (2) of the Law of General Election should be adopted to revise the rules regarding nominations in the Law of Local Election.

Revising the regulations in the law of political parties for nominating the candidates for president and local government

Revising the regulations regarding the recruitment of presidential and regional head candidates in the Law of Political Parties is one of the efforts that can be made to overcome this political dowry problem. There must be appropriate rules that guarantee the process of nominating candidates by the internal political parties is democratic and open. The committee of the general election, namely the General Elections Commission (KPU) and the General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) should have access to supervise the process of nominating candidates directly by the internal political parties. Whereas, the political parties should be required to inform the organizers of the general election about the process of nominating the candidates. With the direct access from the general election committee to supervise the process of nominating candidates by the internal political parties, and by the obligation to the political parties to report the process of nominating the candidates, at least a

chance of practicing the political dowry can be limited.

In the current Law of Political Parties, there is no such rule. Article 29 section (2) Law Number 11 Year 2011 concerning the Amendments to the Law Number 2 Year 2008 concerning the Political Parties (The law of Political Parties) merely regulates: “The recruitments as referred in section (1) letter c and letter d (candidates for regional heads and vice regional heads; candidates for president and vice president) are done in a democratically and openly following the Memorandum of Association (AD) and Articles of Association (ART), and the legislation.”

Assigning the time limitation for the political parties to accept the political cost

To ensure that act of receiving the political dowry does not disguise as the political costs, the Law of General Election and the Law of Local Election need the rules regarding the time limit for political parties to accept the political costs. Receiving the political costs that are allocated for the campaign including costs for campaign attributes, supporting team members, the use of electronic and printed media,

consultation and survey, the witnesses’ fee in the process of vote counting, and other expenses to organize other general elections or local elections, should have a time limit, which is after the candidates are chosen, not in the nomination process. By giving the time limit, it will be easier to differentiate the political costs from the political dowry. Any form of revenue received by the political parties during the nomination period can be assumed as the political dowry, and the political parties can no longer hide it. The absence of the time limit has been misused by the political parties to receive the political dowry by hiding under the name of political costs.

Enhancing the legal awareness

Even though the rules regarding nominations have been arranged properly, every loophole for the practice of political dowry has been closed, the general election organizers and the law enforcement officials have worked optimally to prevent this political dowry; it is still impossible to not involve the legal awareness of all parties in the management of the general elections or local elections, especially legal awareness of the political parties, the candidates, and the

voters. The continuity of the political dowry in this day is an indicator that the legal awareness of the parties involved in the general elections or local elections is still low. If the legal awareness of the parties involved in the management of the general elections or local elections has been high, the practice of political dowry will certainly be extinct. Thence, all parties involved in the management of the general elections or local elections will behave properly and obey the applicable law regarding the nominations.

Therefore, efforts to enhance legal awareness are a necessity. There must be some efforts to increase the legal awareness of all people involved in the management of general or local elections, especially for the political parties, the candidates, and the voters to behave appropriately and obey the legal rules regarding the nomination process. If the legal awareness of the political parties, the candidates, and the voters is heretofore just known and acknowledged as the legal rules regarding nominations, the legal awareness must be enhanced to achieve the awareness to respect and behave appropriately and obey the rules

regarding the nomination process. Some efforts to enhance the legal awareness of the rules regarding nominations which are aligned with the Law-Justice, News, and investigations⁸ related to how to enhance legal awareness include actions, education, campaigns, and role models.

Action is the main and first method to instill legal awareness. The action can be in the form of punishment if disobey, and reward if obeying the law. Thus, the law must be enforced as it should be to instill legal awareness. The practice of political dowry appears every time the general election or local election is conducted because heretofore there is no law enforcement to the practice of the political dowry.

Providing education is another strategy to enhance legal awareness. Through education, people can discover, acknowledge, appreciate, and obey the law. Education for all people involved to handle the general elections or the local elections is a method to enhance legal awareness for obeying the rules related to the candidate nominations in the elections and also for preventing the problem of political dowry.

⁸Tim Liputan News/Editor Law Justice.co, *Begini Cara Menanamkan Kesadaran Hukum di*

Masyarakat, <https://www.law.justice.co>, March 25th, 2019.

The next strategy to enhance legal awareness is through campaigns. A campaign can be done as a tool to enhance legal awareness. If someone has the legal knowledge, the punishment for disobeying, and the reward when obeying the law, it can enhance legal awareness. Campaigning the regulations for the candidate nominations is an effort to enhance the legal awareness for obeying the law related to the rules of the nomination process and preventing the practice of the political dowry.

The last way to enhance legal awareness is through role models. In many cases, public behavior is a result of an imitation of someone or a public figure as a role model. The public obeys the law because the role models also obey the law, moreover, the public does not obey the law because the role models do not obey the law either. Likewise, in efforts to increase legal awareness to obey the rules regarding the nomination process and to prevent political dowry, the leaders and the competent parties must give an example. The leaders and the competent parties must be able to be good role models for the candidates, such as the examples of candidates who

prioritize honesty, sportsmanship, and truth.

CONCLUSION

The political dowry is different from the political cost. A political dowry is any compensation offered by a person or an institution and received by a political party and/or a member of the political party for the nomination process; whereas, political cost is any expenses for having a general election or a local election, as such as campaign expenses including campaign attributes, supporting team members, the use of electronic and printed media, consultation and survey, the witnesses' fee in the process of vote counting, and other expenses to organize other general elections or local elections outside the nomination process which are charged to the candidates or the parties. Political dowry is not a part of the political cost. An action restricted by the legislation is an act of offering and receiving the political dowry, but an act of offering and receiving political cost is not restricted. The act of offering and receiving the political dowry can be occurred by disguising itself to political cost. The political dowry is restricted by law because it is against the national law's interest,

which is the interest to have qualified and fair general elections and local elections. Heretofore, there is no legal punishment given to a person or an institution, even to any political party and the member of the political party in the practice of political dowry due to the difficulty to prove the practice. There are some efforts to prevent the practice of political dowry: (1) giving intensive supervision from The General Election Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*) and its subdivisions, (2) revising the regulations in the Law of the Local elections for nominating the candidates, (3) revising the regulations in the law of political parties for nominating the candidates of a president and local government, (4) assigning the time limitation for the political parties to accept the political cost, and (5) enhancing the legal awareness of all parties involving in the practice of general elections or local elections.

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Governor, Regent, and Mayor
Elections Developed to Law,
afterward it is called the Law of
Local Election).

Law Number 11 Year 2011 concerning
the Amendments to the Law
Number 2 Year 2008
concerning the Political Parties
(The law of Political Parties)

Law of The General Election
Supervisory Agency (*Bawaslu*)
Number 8 Year 2020
concerning How to Overcome
the Election Violations for the
Nominations of Governors
and Vice Governors, Regents
and Vice Regents, as well as
Mayors and Vice Mayors.