## Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

First Regular Session
3100
HOUSE BILL NO.



# Introduced by HONORABLE STRIKE B. REVILLA

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Philippines as a public administration system boasts of the unique aspect of having a manager down to the grassroots in the form of the Barangay system. The Barangay is the smallest administrative unit in the Philippines. Its strength comes necessarily from its easy accessibility.

In addition, the Barangay political system is characterized by a more personal and intimate relationship. Barangay officials belong to one neighborhood and issues within the barangay are resolved, as much as practicable, in the barangay.

The importance of Barangay, as well as Sangguniang Kabataan officials cannot be overemphasized. These officials are considered the front liners in the delivery of social services.

Unfortunately, the term of incumbent barangay officials was reduced to two years after Republic Act No. 10952 was approved on October 2, 2017, deferring the 2017 barangay and SK elections and moved it to the second Monday of May 2018.

The law further stipulated for the next polls to be held on May 2020, reducing the terms of candidates who won the May 2018 elections only two terms, instead of the three years mandated by the previous law.

This bill seeks to reset the next Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections to the second Monday of October 2022 to give them ample time and continuity to pursue and implement the programs they have set in their respective jurisdictions.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

REP. STRIKE B. REVILLA 2nd District, Cavite

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AN ACT POSTPONING THE MAY 2020 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KATABAAN ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10632, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10656, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10923, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10952 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Act No. 9340, Republic Act No. 10632, Republic Act No. 10656, Republic Act No. 10923, and Republic Act No. 10952, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1. Date of Election.— There shall be synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections, which shall be held on July 15, 2002. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the last Monday of October 2007 and every three (3) years thereafter: *Provided*, That the barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections on May 11, 2020 shall be postponed to the second Monday of October 2022. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the second Monday of May 2025 and every three (3) years thereafter."

**SECTION 2.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Act No. 9340, Republic Act No. 10632, Republic Act No. 10923, and Republic Act No. 10952 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. Assumption of Office.— The term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected under this Act shall commence at noon of November 30 next following their election: *Provided*, *however*, That the term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected in the May 2025 elections and subsequently thereafter, shall commence at noon of June 30 next following then election."

SECTION 3. Hold Over.— Until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified, all incumbent barangay officials shall remain in office unless sooner removed or suspended for cause.

SECTION 4. Ban of Government Projects.— The construction or maintenance of barangay-funded roads and bridges shall be prohibited for a period of ten (10) days immediately preceding the date of election, the provisions of Section 261, paragraphs (v) and (w), of the Omnibus Election Code to the contrary notwithstanding.

SECTION 5. Prohibition on Appointments of Government Officials and Employees.— The appointment or hiring of new employees, creation of new position, promotion, or giving of salary increases, remuneration or privileges in the barangay shall be prohibited for a period of ten (10) days immediately preceding the election, the provisions of Section 261, paragraph (g), of the Omnibus Election Code to the contrary notwithstanding.

**SECTION 6.** Use of Sangguniang Kabataan Fund.— Until the new sangguniang kabataan officials shall have been duly elected and qualified, the sangguniang barangay shall not use the sangguniang kabataan fund except for youth development and empowerment programs as provided in Republic Act No. 10742, otherwise known as the "Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act of 2015".

SECTION 7. Implementing Rules and Regulatione.— The Commission on Elections shall, within fifteen (15) days after the effectivity of this Act, promulgate such rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

**SECTION 8.** Repealing Clause.— All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9.** Separability Clause.— If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

**SECTION 10.** Effectivity.— This Act shall take effect immediately following the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,