

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1628

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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INTRODUCED BY: REPRESENTATIVE GWENDOLYN F. GARCIA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

After a long and divisive election campaign period, the country has just concluded the hotly contested May 9, 2016 national and local elections.

Presently, our people and their political leaders are engaged in the slow and tedious process of reconciliation, realignment, coalition and critical collaboration, in order to forge some sort of a unity of purpose and direction, in support of the Administration of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte. However, this new-found unity will be threatened or even imperiled when the country will go through again another divisive election campaign period for the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan election in October of this year, 2016.

Moreover, in all likelihood, the country will hold a Constitutional Convention for the amendment or revision of the 1987 Constitution early next year. This is primarily to bring to reality the number one priority of the President's political reform agenda, which is for our country to shift from the present unitary to the federal system of government. This political exercise will require the election of delegates to the Constitutional Convention. So, the country will have to hold two elections in less than a year between each other. And it would be more economical and practicable if we can have only one election instead of two. But the country cannot have the election of delegates to the Constitutional Convention before October of this year, 2016, considering that this will require an Act of Congress providing for that election and there is no more material time left for the passage of the Act and the campaign period.

And so, under circumstances, the most logical and sensible course of action would be to postpone and reset the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan election to the Second Monday of January, 2017 or to another date as may be set by Congress for the election of delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

Hence, early approval of this Bill is earnestly and respectfully requested.

[Signature]
GWENDOLYN F. GARCIA

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**“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE POSTPONEMENT AND
RESETTING OF THE BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
ELECTION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

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

Section 1. Short title.- This Act shall be known as the “Postponement and Resetting of the October, 2016 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Election Act”.

Section 2. Date of Election.- The election of the Officers of the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan set in October, 2016, is hereby postponed and reset to the Second Monday of January of 2017 or to such other date as may be set by Congress for the election of delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

Section 3. Hold-over of Incumbent Elective Officials.- Incumbent Barangay Officials shall remain and continue in Office in a hold-over capacity until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

Section 4. Rules and Regulations.- The Commission on Election shall promulgate the necessary Rules and Regulations for the election of the officials of the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan.

Section 5. Repealing Clause.- All laws, rules, regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 6. Effectivity.- This Act takes effect upon its approval.