

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

House of Representatives

House Bill No. 3225

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Introduced by Congressman GUS S. TAMBUNTING

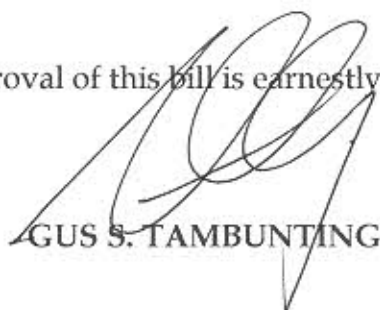
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Elections are costly and deeply divisive exercises in our country. The recently concluded 2016 National and Local Elections is proof positive of this fact. Firstly, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) was allocated, and presumably spent the amount of 15.6 Billion Pesos to conduct Automated Elections for national and local offices last May. Moreover, the coming of age of social media also made this last election a force which, divided the country, with supporters of candidates taking to their social media accounts with a fervor not as yet seen, and which resulted in heated discussions and divisions, even within the basic social unit of the family.

It is also worth considering that there are genuine and concerted moves to initiate changes to our Constitution. If these initiatives succeed, there will again be the need to conduct electoral exercises in this regard.

Given the need to consolidate people's sentiments after a fractious election, especially in the light of the many challenges being addressed by the newly installed government of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, and considering as well the attendant costs to holding as scheduled, the Barangay Elections later this year in October as provided for by Republic Act No. 9340, considering likewise, the possibility of the need to conduct a referendum due to ongoing positive moves to amend our Constitution, and considering finally the challenges to be faced by our Public School Teachers and other election workers, who must again face a grueling manual election so soon after completing their invaluable service last May 9, 2016, then the postponement of the Barangay elections scheduled to be held on October 2016 to coincide with the 2019 midterm elections, would not be out of place.

It is for this reason that the timely approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


GUS S. TAMBUNTING

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**AN ACT
TO POSTPONE THE CONDUCT OF
THE 2016 BARANGAY ELECTIONS
AND TO RESET THE SAME TO COINCIDE WITH
THE 2019 MIDTERM ELECTIONS
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SECTION 1 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9340 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:
3

4 *“SEC. 1. Date of Election.- The Barangay Elections to be held on October 10,*
5 *2016 is hereby postponed and reset to May 6, 2019, to coincide with the 2019*
6 *midterm elections.”*
7

8 **SECTION 2.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9340 is likewise amended to read
9 as follows:
10

11 *“SEC. 2. Assumption of Office.- The term of office of Barangay officials under*
12 *this Act shall commence on June 30, 2019, following their election.”*
13

14 **SECTION 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** The Commission on
15 Elections shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations necessary
16 to implement this Act.
17

18 **SECTION 4. Repealing Clause.** All laws, presidential decrees or issuances,
19 executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules or
20 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are
21 hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.
22

23 **SECTION 5. Separability Clause.** In the event that any provision of this Act
24 is declared unconstitutional, the validity of the other provisions shall not be
25 affected by such declaration.
26

1 **SECTION 5. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect after its complete
2 publication in the Official gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general
3 circulation.

 Approved,

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