Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1071



Introduced by HON. LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO

AN ACT POSTPONING THE MAY 2020 SYNCHRONIZED BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN 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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed bill seeks to postpone and/or reset the upcoming Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan ("SK") elections from its original schedule in May 2020 to a later date in October 2022.

Under the Local Government Code, the term of office of barangay officials and SK members should be for three (3) years. However, with the enactment of Republic Act No. 10952, the synchronized Barangay and SK elections were moved to the second Monday of May 2018.

Unwittingly, the elected barangay and SK officials in 2018 are now constrained to serve for only a two-year term in stark contrast to the mandate of the Local Government Code and to the detriment of project and program implementation that would benefit the Filipino people. In order to rectify the shortened term of barangay and SK officials, it is imperative to postpone the upcoming May 2020 Barangay and SK Elections anew, which would extend their term to a more plausible term of four years.

The four-year term for barangay and SK officials will be more coherent with the provisions of law and will ultimately redound to the effective allocation of resources and services towards nation-building. Thus, the upcoming May 2020 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections should be postponed and should be scheduled in October 2022.

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

LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO

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Be it enacted by the Senate and the 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. 10656, Republic Act No. 10923 and Republic Act No. 10952, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 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 the second Monday of May 2020 shall be postponed to the last Monday of October 2022. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the last Monday of October 2025 and every three (3) years thereafter."

SEC. 2. . Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Act No. 9340, 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 October 2022 Elections and subsequently thereafter, shall commence at noon of November 30 next following their election."

SEC. 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.

SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The COMELEC shall, within ninety (90) days after the effectivity o this Act, promulgate such rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 5. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part hereof is declared unconstitutional, 54 the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected shall remain in full force and effect. 55 56 SEC. 6. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and 57 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby 58 repealed, amended or modified accordingly. 59 60 SEC. 7. Effectivity - This Act shall take effect immediately after its publication in the 61 Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation. 62 63 Approved, 64