

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 4606



Introduced by: **HONORABLE HENRY S. OAMINAL**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to reset the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections scheduled to be held on the second Monday of May 2018 to the second Monday of May 2023.

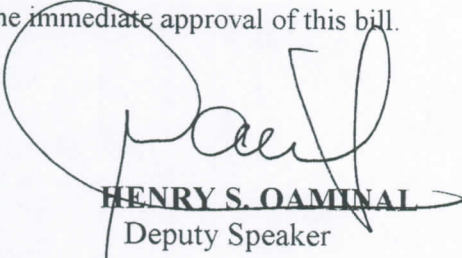
The Filipino people had just participated in the national and local elections last May 13, 2019, that was barely a year after the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan was held in May, 2018. Again, on the second Monday of May 2020, or a year after the holding of the national and local elections, Republic Act No. 10952 mandated the synchronized elections of barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials even when the COMELEC officials and employees, teachers, members of civic and religious organizations, who are directly involved in the election activities had barely warmed their seats and the sore losers have yet to accept their fate gracefully.

The resetting of the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections therefore will, according to the COMELEC, free us from "election fatigue".

The election of barangay and sangguniang kabataan is supposed to be a non-partisan political activity. Yet, our experience in so many past elections has shown time and again that barangay election cannot be totally insulated from the undue influence of partisan politics. Thus, it has caused divisiveness and has its share of some deplorable practices that trigger instances of violence among political leaders and supporters.

It is therefore the paramount objective of this important piece of legislation to reset the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections scheduled to be held on the second Monday of May 2020 to the second Monday of May 2023. This will definitely allow the Filipino people to take a little longer pause before immersing themselves again into another political battle that will certainly disturb the peaceful condition at the local level. It will also generate savings for the government of more than Six Billion Pesos (P6 Billion) based on the appropriations cited under Republic Act No. 10952.

The foregoing reasons warrant the immediate approval of this bill.


HENRY S. OAMINAL
Deputy Speaker

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HOUSE BILL No. 4606

Introduced by: **HONORABLE HENRY S. OAMINAL**

AN ACT
RESETTING THE MAY 2020 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIAN KABATAAN
ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT No. 9164, AS
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACTS NUMBERED 9340, 10632, 10656, 10923 AND
10952, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

*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 Acts Numbered 9340, 10632, 10656, 10923 and 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 years (3) years thereafter: *Provided*, That the barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections on October 23, 2017 shall be postponed to the second Monday of May 2018. Subsequent barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the second Monday of May [2020] 2023 and every three years thereafter.

SEC. 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Acts Numbered 9340, 10632, 10656, 10923 and 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 June 30 next following their elections: *Provided, however, That* the term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected in the May [2020] 2023 election and subsequently thereafter, shall commence at noon of June 30 next following their election.”

SEC. 3. *Holdover.* – Until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified, all incumbent barangay officials shall remain in office, unless sooner remove for cause: *Provided, That* barangay officials who are ex-officio members of the sangguniang bayan, sangguniang panlungsod, or sangguniang panlalawigan, as the case may be, shall continue to serve as such members in the sangguniang concerned until the next barangay elections. The Liga ng mga Barangay at the municipal, city, and provincial levels shall, not later July 31, 2023, conduct elections for *ex-officio* positions in the sanggunians under the supervision of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

SEC. 4. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) under the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The COMELEC shall issue the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules an regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and thereby remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,