

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. **3756**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

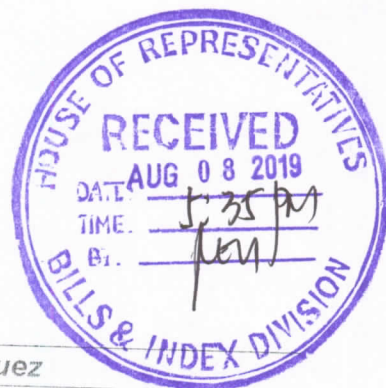
Elections in the Philippines are always costly exercises, both for the candidate and the government. Candidates spend a lot just to get elected.

Also, it is of common knowledge that elections, whether national, local or barangay, prove to be divisive among the populace. Candidates and their supporters try to destroy their opponents by using any means necessary just to be able to secure victory. As proof of the division and problems caused by the past barangay elections, the COMELEC investigated the interruption of the elections and is just about to come out with the results of said investigation to determine who would be held liable for the late delivery of ballot and election returns which caused the delay of the conduct of elections in several polling centers nationwide. Also, many election documents were left behind by the shipping companies tapped by the poll body because of packaging delays at the National Printing Office in Quezon City.

Furthermore, the three year term of barangay officials is too short a time for the unity and stability in barangay leadership and affairs. It is not enough to ensure that the programs of the barangay are carried out properly especially considering the fact that it cannot be denied that the last year of the term is basically used for campaigning. An additional one year to the term of office of barangay officials would therefore be in order. It would ensure more stability in the barangay level and that the programs initiated by the current leaders would come to fruition.

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


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ



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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. **3756**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 43 OF REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES BY INCREASING BY TWO YEARS THE TERM OF OFFICE OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS.

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

Section 1. Section 43 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 43. *Term of Office.* - (a) The term of office of all local elective officials elected after the effectivity of this Code shall be three (3) years, starting from noon of June 30, 1992 or such date as may be provided for by law, except that of elective barangay officials: Provided, That all local officials first elected during the local elections immediately following the ratification of the 1987 Constitution shall serve until noon of June 30, 1992.

(b) No local elective official shall serve for more than three (3) consecutive terms in the same position. Voluntary renunciation of the office for any length of time shall not be considered as an interruption in the continuity of service for the full term for which the elective official concerned was elected.

(c) The term of office of barangay officials and members of the sangguniang kabataan shall be for [three (3) years] **FOUR (4) YEARS.** [which shall begin after the regular election of barangay officials on the second Monday of May 1994.]

SEC 2. The amendment introduced by this Act shall apply to the next Barangay Elections to be held after the effectivity of this Act and every Barangay Elections thereafter.

SEC 3. Separability Clause – Should any of the provisions of this Act or any part thereof be declared invalid, the other provisions, so far as they are separable from the invalid ones, shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC 4. Repealing Clause – All laws, presidential decrees and issuances, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC 5. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,