

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2356

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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Introduced by Representative GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO


AN ACT
PROMOTING BARANGAY JUSTICE BY AMENDING ARTICLE 1155 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 386, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CIVIL CODE OF
THE PHILIPPINES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Presidential Decree No. 1508 was able to establish a system of amicably setting disputes at the barangay level. But there is a need to strengthen this system and one such amendment concerns the institution of safeguards against prescription of actions which may occur if conciliation is resorted to by parties involved.

The proposed measure seeks to address this need by specifically providing that the filing of case with the Punong Barangay interrupts the running of the prescriptive period under the Civil Code of the Philippines or Republic Act No. 386, in particular Article 1155. The suspension, however, does not extend to more than sixty (60) days to prevent the possibility of undue delay that the suspension might engender.

In the interest of encouraging serious recourse to the system of amicable settling disputes at the barangay level, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly requested.


GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
2nd District, Pampanga

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

SECTION 1. Article 1155 of the Civil Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"ART. 1155. The prescription of actions is interrupted when they are filed before the court, when there is a written extrajudicial demand by the creditors, (and) when there is any written acknowledgement of the debt by the debtor, **OR WHEN THEY ARE BROUGHT BEFORE THE PUNONG BARANGAY OR THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA UNDER THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE.**

IF BROUGHT BEFORE THE PUNONG BARANGAY OR THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, THE PRESCRIPTION OF ACTION IS SUSPENDED ONLY FOR A PERIOD OF SIXTY (60) DAYS TO BE RECKONED FROM THE DATE OF SAID REFERRAL.

SECTION 2. This Act shall be without prejudice to the pertinent provisions of the Revised Katarungang Pambarangay Law as provided for in Sections 399-422, Chapter VII, Title I, Book III of Republic Act No. 7160.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity.*—This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,