

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2450

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ARTHUR C. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Historians often state that the Philippine Barangay system of government evolved from a council of village elders. A group of elders, who literally due to their advanced ages have gathered wisdom that could guide the younger members, were chosen to lead their communities.

This historical perspective is not unique to the Philippines. Even the Roman Government, upon which most modern republican governments were molded, started with the creation of the Roman Senate, coined from the term "Senatus", meaning council of elders.

Thus, since time immemorial, and not merely in the Philippines but everywhere in the world, people have not merely subscribed to heeding the advice of the elderly, but likewise allowed their leadership and governance.

In the present day however, the influence of the elderly, even in Barangay and small town politics, has started to diminish. Much worse, their representation in government has become very much insignificant.

It should be noted that in the year 2007, there were around 5.8 Million senior citizens, or those with ages 60 years old and above. This comprises around 6.5% of the entire population. It is projected that by the year 2030, the senior citizens would comprise 10% of the total population.

Yet still, the senior citizens have not been properly represented in government, starting from the Barangay government.

This should be contrasted with the youth sector which has representation in government, starting from the Barangay, through the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK). This, even though under Republic Act No. 9164, SK membership has been limited to those with ages 15 to not more

than 18 years. It is needless to state that such is a very minute segment of the population.

A positive action is needed for the senior citizens and the elderly to have a voice in government.

Under this measure, the Local Government Code of 1991 shall be amended and a Sangguniang Senior Citizens and a Katipunan ng mga Senior Citizens shall be created. The Senior Citizens Sanggunian shall be elected, starting from the Barangay level, similar to the SK. The Chairman of the Senior Citizens Sanggunian shall also become an ex officio member of the Barangay Council.

The Senior Citizens Sanggunian shall likewise have Municipal, City and Provincial Federations. They shall have representation in the Sangguniang Pambayan, Panglungsod and Panglalawigan.

With this measure, not only are the senior citizens and the elderly going to be properly represented in government and continue to perform an active role in nation building. More important, we as a people would benefit from their wisdom and values, which they have learned through the years.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill, previously filed as House Bill No. 412 by the undersigned in the Sixteenth Congress, is earnestly sought.



ARTHUR C. YAP
Representative

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2450

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ARTHUR C. YAP

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR REPRESENTATION IN ALL LEVELS
OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR SENIOR CITIZENS,
CREATING THE SANGGUNIAN SENIOR CITIZENS,
THE KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING
FOR THEIR POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE PERTINENT SECTIONS OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF
1991, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** This Act shall be known as the
2 “Sangguniang Senior Citizens Act of 2016”.

3 **SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It hereby declared the policy
4 of the State to allow the senior citizens and the elderly to be properly
5 represented in government and continue to perform an active role in nation
6 building.

7 **SECTION 3. *Amendment of Section 423 of the Local Government***
8 ***Code.*** – Section 423 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the
9 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
10 follows:

1 "CHAPTER VIII

2 Sangguniang Kabataan AND SANGGUNIANG
3 SENIOR CITIZENS

4 SECTION 423. *Creation and Election.* — (a) There shall
5 be in every barangay a sangguniang kabataan AND
6 SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS to be composed of a
7 chairman, [~~seven (7)~~] **FOUR (4)** members, a secretary, and a
8 treasurer.

9 (b) A sangguniang kabataan official who, during his
10 term of office, shall have passed the age of twenty-one (21)
11 years shall be allowed to serve the remaining portion of the
12 term for which he was elected.”

13 **SECTION 4. *Amendment of Section 424 of the Local Government***

14 **Code.** — Section 424 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the
15 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
16 follows:

17 “SEC. 424. *Katipunan ng Kabataan AND KATIPUNAN*
18 *NG SENIOR CITIZENS.* — The katipunan ng kabataan AND
19 KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS shall be composed of
20 Filipino citizens actually residing in the barangay for at least six
21 (6) months, **IN THE CASE OF THE KATIPUNAN NG**
22 **KABATAAN**, who are fifteen (15) but less than eighteen (18)
23 years of age on the day of the election, **AND IN THE CASE**
24 **OF KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS, WHO ARE**
25 **SIXTY (60) YEAR OF AGE OR MORE** and who are duly

1 registered in the list of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
2 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** or in the official
3 barangay list in the custody of the barangay secretary.

4 **SECTION 5. *Amendment of Section 425 of the Local Government***

5 **Code.** — Section 425 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the
6 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
7 follows:

8 SECTION 425. *Meetings of the Katipunan ng Kabataan*
9 **AND THE KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS.** — The
10 katipunan ng kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
11 **CITIZENS** shall meet at least once every three (3) months, or
12 at the call of the chairman of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
13 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** or upon written
14 petition of at least one-twentieth (1/20) of its members, to
15 decide on important issues affecting the youth **AND THE**
16 **SENIOR CITIZENS, RESPECTIVELY,** of the barangay.

17 **SECTION 6. *Amendment of Section 426 of the Local Government***

18 **Code.** — Section 426 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the
19 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
20 follows:

21 SECTION 426. *Powers and Functions of the*
22 *Sangguniang Kabataan* **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
23 **CITIZENS.** — The sangguniang kabataan **AND**
24 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall:

1 (a) Promulgate resolutions necessary to carry out the
2 objectives of the youth **AND THE SENIOR CITIZENS**,
3 **RESPECTIVELY**, in the barangay in accordance with the
4 applicable provisions of this Code;

5 (b) Initiate programs designed to enhance the social,
6 political, economic, cultural, intellectual, moral, spiritual, and
7 physical development of the members;

8 (c) Hold fund-raising activities, the proceeds of which
9 shall be tax-exempt and shall accrue to the general fund of the
10 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
11 **CITIZENS**: Provided, however, That in the appropriation
12 thereof, the specific purpose for which such activity has been
13 held shall be first satisfied;

14 (d) Create such bodies or committees as it may deem
15 necessary to effectively carry out its programs and activities;

16 (e) Submit annual and end-of-term reports to the
17 sangguniang barangay on their projects and activities for the
18 survival and development of the youth **AND THE SENIOR**
19 **CITIZENS** in the barangay;

20 (f) Consult and coordinate with all youth **AND**
21 **SENIOR CITIZENS** organizations in the barangay for policy
22 formulation and program implementation;

23 (g) Coordinate with the appropriate national agency
24 for the implementation of youth **AND SENIOR CITIZENS**
25 development projects and programs at the national level;

(h) Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as the sangguniang barangay may determine or delegate or as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

SECTION 7. *Amendment of Section 427 of the Local Government*

Code. – Section 427 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

SECTION 427. *Meetings of the Sangguniang*

***Kabataan AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS.* —**

The sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall meet regularly once a month on the date, time, and place to be fixed by the said **RESPECTIVE** sanggunian. Special meetings may be called by the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** chairman or any **TWO (2) [three (3)]** of its members by giving written notice to all members of the date, time, place and agenda of the meeting at least one (1) day in advance. Notices of regular or special meetings shall be furnished the punong barangay and the sangguniang barangay.

A majority of the members of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 8. *Amendment of Section 428 of the Local Government*

Code. – Section 428 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the

1 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
2 follows:

3 SEC. 428. *Qualifications.* — An elective official of the
4 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
5 **CITIZENS** must be a Filipino citizen, a qualified voter of the
6 katipunan ng kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
7 **CITIZENS**, a resident of the barangay for at least one (1) year
8 immediately prior to election, at least fifteen (15) years but less
9 than eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the election **FOR**
10 **THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN AND SIXTY (60)**
11 **YEARS OF AGE OR MORE FOR SANGGUNIANG**
12 **SENIOR CITIZENS**, able to read and write Filipino, English,
13 or the local dialect, and must not have been convicted of any
14 crime involving moral turpitude."

15 **SECTION 9. *Amendment of Section 429 of the Local Government***
16 ***Code.*** — Section 429 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the
17 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
18 follows:

19 "SECTION 429. *Term of Office.* — The sangguniang
20 kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
21 chairman and members shall hold office for a period of three
22 (3) years, unless sooner removed for cause as provided by law,
23 permanently incapacitated, die or resign from office.

24 **SECTION 10. *Amendment of Section 430 of the Local Government***
25 ***Code.*** — Section 430 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the

1 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
2 follows:

3 SECTION 430. *Sangguniang Kabataan AND*
4 ***SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Chairman.*** — The
5 registered voters of the katipunan ng kabataan **AND**
6 **KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall elect the
7 chairman of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG**
8 **SENIOR CITIZENS** who shall BOTH automatically serve as
9 **[an]** ex officio member**S** of the sangguniang barangay upon
10 **[his]** **THEIR** assumption to office. As such, **[he]** **THEY** shall
11 exercise the same powers, discharge the same duties and
12 functions, and enjoy the same privileges as the regular
13 sangguniang barangay members, and shall be the chairman of
14 the committee on youth and sports development **AND**
15 **COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZES AFFAIRS,**
16 **RESPECTIVELY,** in the said sanggunian.”

17 **SECTION 11. *Amendment of Section 431 of the Local Government***
18 ***Code.*** — Section 431 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the
19 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
20 follows:

21 “SECTION 431. *Powers and Duties of the*
22 *Sangguniang Kabataan AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR*
23 ***CITIZENS Chairman.*** — In addition to the duties which may
24 be assigned to **[him]** **THEM** by the sangguniang barangay, the

1 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
2 **CITIZENS [chairman] CHAIRMEN** shall:

3 (a) Call and preside over all meetings of the
4 **RESPECTIVE** katipunan ng kabataan **AND KATIPUNAN**
5 **NG SENIOR CITIZENS** and the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
6 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**;

7 (b) Implement policies, programs, and projects within
8 his jurisdiction in coordination with the sangguniang barangay;

9 (c) Exercise general supervision over the affairs and
10 activities of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG**
11 **SENIOR CITIZENS** and the official conduct of its members,
12 and such other officers of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
13 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** within [his] **THEIR**
14 jurisdiction;

15 (d) With the concurrence of the sangguniang kabataan
16 **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**, appoint from
17 among the members of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
18 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**, the secretary and
19 treasurer and such other officers as may be deemed necessary;
20 and

21 (e) Exercise such other powers and perform such other
22 duties and functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

23 **SECTION 12. *Amendment of Section 432 of the Local Government***

24 **Code.** – Section 432 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the

1 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
2 follows:

3 SECTION 432. *Sangguniang Kabataan AND*
4 *SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Secretary.* — The
5 **RESPECTIVE** sangguniang kabataan **AND**
6 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** secretary shall:

7 (a) Keep all records of the katipunan ng kabataan
8 **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** and
9 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
10 **CITIZENS;**

11 (b) Prepare and keep the minutes of all meetings of the
12 katipunan ng kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
13 **CITIZENS** and sangguniang kabataan **AND**
14 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;**

15 (c) Prepare all forms necessary for the conduct of
16 registrations, elections, initiatives, referenda, or plebiscites, in
17 coordination with the barangay secretary and the COMELEC;
18 and

19 (d) Perform such other duties and discharge such other
20 functions as the chairman of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
21 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** may prescribe or
22 direct.

23 **SECTION 13. *Amendment of Section 433 of the Local Government***
24 **Code.** — Section 433 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the

1 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
2 follows:

3 SECTION 433. *Sangguniang Kabataan AND*
4 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Treasurer.** — The
5 **RESPECTIVE** sangguniang kabataan **AND**
6 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** treasurer shall:

7 (a) Take custody of all sangguniang kabataan **AND**
8 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** property and funds
9 not otherwise deposited with the city or municipal treasurer;

10 (b) Collect and receive contributions, monies,
11 materials, and all other resources intended for the sangguniang
12 kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** and
13 the katipunan ng kabataan **AND KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR**
14 **CITIZENS;**

15 (c) Disburse funds in accordance with an approved
16 budget of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG**
17 **SENIOR CITIZENS;**

18 (d) Certify to the availability of funds whenever
19 necessary;

20 (e) Submit to the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
21 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** and to the
22 sangguniang barangay certified and detailed statements of
23 actual income and expenditures at the end of every month; and

(f) Perform such other duties and discharge such other functions as the chairman of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** may direct.

SECTION 14. *Amendment of Section 434 of the Local Government*

Code. – Section 434 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

SECTION 434. *Privileges of Sangguniang Kabataan AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Officials.* — The **RESPECTIVE** sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** chairman shall have the same privileges enjoyed by other sangguniang barangay officials under this Code subject to such requirements and limitations provided herein. During their incumbency, sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** officials shall be exempt from payment of tuition and matriculation fees while enrolled in public tertiary schools, including state colleges and universities. The National Government shall reimburse said college or university the amount of the tuition and matriculation fees: Provided, That, to qualify for the privilege, the said officials shall enroll in a state college or university within or nearest their area of jurisdiction.

SECTION 3. *Amendment of Section 435 of the Local Government*

Code. – Section 435 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the

1 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
2 follows:

3 SECTION 435. *Succession and Filling of Vacancies.* —

4 (a) In case a sangguniang kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG**
5 **SENIOR CITIZENS** chairman refuses to assume office, fails
6 to qualify, is convicted of a felony, voluntarily resigns, dies, is
7 permanently incapacitated, is removed from office, or has been
8 absent without leave for more than three (3) consecutive
9 months, the sangguniang kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG**
10 **SENIOR CITIZENS** member who obtained the next highest
11 number of votes in the election immediately preceding shall
12 assume the office of the chairman for the unexpired portion of
13 the term, and shall discharge the powers and duties, and enjoy
14 the rights and privileges appurtenant to the office. In case the
15 said member refuses to assume the position or fails to qualify,
16 the sangguniang kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
17 **CITIZENS** member obtaining the next highest number of votes
18 shall assume the position of the chairman for the unexpired
19 portion of the term.

20 (b) Where two (2) or more sangguniang kabataan **OR**
21 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** members obtained
22 the same next highest number of votes, the other sangguniang
23 kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
24 members shall conduct an election to choose the successor to
25 the chairman from among the said members.

1 (c) After the vacancy shall have been filled, the
2 sangguniang kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
3 **CITIZENS** chairman shall call a special election to complete
4 the membership of said sanggunian. Such sangguniang
5 kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
6 member shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term
7 of the vacant seat.

8 (d) In case of suspension of the sangguniang kabataan
9 **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** chairman, the
10 successor, as determined in subsections (a) and (b) of this
11 section shall assume the position during the period of such
12 suspension.

13 **SECTION 16. *Amendment of Section 436 of the Local Government***

14 **Code.** – Section 436 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the
15 Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
16 follows:

17 **CHAPTER IX**

18 Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan **AND**
19 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**

20 **SECTION 436. *Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang***
21 ***Kabataan AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS.*** — (a)
22 There shall be an organization of all the pederasyon ng mga
23 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
24 **CITIZENS** to be known as follows:

(1) In municipalities, pambayang pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PAMBAYANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;**

(2) In cities, panlungsod na pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PANGLUNGSOD NA PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;**

(3) In provinces, panlalawigang pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PANLALAWIGANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;**

(4) In special metropolitan political subdivisions, pangmetropolitang pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PANGMETROPOLITANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;** and

(5) On the national level, pambansang pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS.**

(b) The pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall, at all levels, elect from among themselves the president, vice-president and such other officers as may be necessary and shall be organized in the following manner:

(1) The panlungsod and pambayang pederasyon shall be composed of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** chairmen of barangays in the city or municipality, respectively;

(2) The panlalawigang pederasyon shall be composed of presidents of the panlungsod and pambayang pederasyon;

(3) The pangmetropolitang pederasyon shall be composed of presidents of the panlungsod and pambayang pederasyon;

(c) The elected presidents of the pederasyon at the provincial, highly urbanized city, and metropolitan political subdivision levels shall constitute the pambansang katipunan ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PAMBANSANG KATIPUNAN NG MGA SENIOR CITIZENS.**

SECTION 17. *Amendment of Section 437 of the Local Government*

Code. – Section 437 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

SECTION 437. *Constitution and By-Laws.* — The term of office, manner of election, removal and suspension of the officers of the pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** at all levels shall be governed by the constitution and by-laws of the pederasyon in conformity with the

provisions of this Code and national policies on youth **AND**
SENIOR CITIZENS.

SECTION 18. *Amendment of Section 438 of the Local Government*

Code. — Section 438 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the
Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as
follows:

SECTION 438. *Membership in the Sanggunian.* — (a)

A sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
CITIZENS chairman shall, upon certification of his election by
the COMELEC and during his tenure of office is elected as
pederasyon president, serve as an ex officio member of the
sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod, and
sangguniang bayan, as the case may be, without need of further
appointment.

(b) The vice-president of the pederasyon whose
president has been elected as president of a higher pederasyon
shall serve as ex officio member of the sanggunian concerned
without need of further appointment.

(c) The pederasyon president or vice-president, as the
case may be, **OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN** shall
be the chairman of the committee on youth and sports
development, **WHILE THAT OF THE SANGGUNIANG**
SENIOR CITIZENS SHALL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF
SENIOR CITIZENS AFFAIRS of the sanggunian concerned.

1 **SECTION 19. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act, or
2 any parts thereof, is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the
3 validity and effectivity of the other portions.

4 **SECTION 20. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, executive orders,
5 presidential decrees, proclamations, rules, regulations, issuances and
6 enactments of parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or
7 modified accordingly.

8 **SECTION 21. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
9 days from its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper
10 of general circulation in the Philippines, whichever comes earlier.

APPROVED.