



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

'22 JUL 11 P 6 :42

RECEIVED BY

SENATE

S. No. 288

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

AN ACT

POSTPONING THE DECEMBER 2022 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, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10952 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11462, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Barangay governments are the primary public service providers on matters concerning peace and order, public health, dispute resolution, and at times, disaster response. Barangay governments, most particularly its elected officials, have played critical roles during the height of the pandemic in terms of distributing social aid, enforcing quarantine regulations, and performing contact-tracing operations. As such, the success of government programs and projects, especially those implemented in the countryside, depends extensively on the stability and capacity of barangay governments in enforcing laws and executing government interventions.

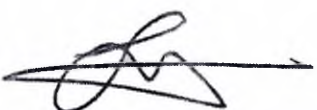
This proposed measure seeks to bolster the stability and consistency of public service at the barangay level by postponing the barangay and sangguniang kabataan (SK) elections from the fifth day of December 2022 to the second Monday of May 2024.

This senate bill provides several distinct advantages. First, the postponement of the barangay and SK elections affords continuity in government operations at the barangay level, particularly in providing basic social services and implementing national and local programs and projects. Second, the proposed measure gives ready access to the institutional memories of grassroots leaders, which could be used in formulating plans, programs and other interventions to adapt to the new normal and to return to the pre-pandemic growth trajectory of the Philippines. Third, the postponement of the barangay and SK elections allows both the national government agencies and local

government units to focus on interventions needed to recover from the pandemic and address the ongoing concerns over oil prices, inflation and poverty. Finally, the bill enables the government to realign a portion of the P8.44 billion appropriations for the barangay and SK elections towards interventions aimed at sustaining the current momentum in addressing the coronavirus pandemic and achieving our collective socioeconomic objectives.

Hence, this bill is filed for Congress' immediate consideration and approval.


Respectfully submitted.


FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO *up*

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

1 Section 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended, is hereby further
2 amended to read as follows;

3 "Section 1. Date of Election. – There = shall be synchronized barangay
4 and sangguniang kabataan elections, which shall be held on July 15, 2002.
5 Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall
6 be held on the last Monday of October 2007 and every three (3) years
7 thereafter: *Provided*, That the barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections
8 on the [~~second Monday of May 2020~~] **FIFTH DAY OF DECEMBER 2022** shall
9 be postponed to [~~December 5, 2022~~] **THE SECOND MONDAY OF MAY**
10 **2024**. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan
11 elections shall be held on the [~~first Monday of December 2025~~] **SECOND**
12 **MONDAY OF MAY 2027** and every three (3) years thereafter."

13 Sec. 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended, is hereby further
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "Sec. 4. Assumption of Office. - The term of office of the barangay and
16 sangguniang kabataan officials elected under this Act shall commence at noon
17 of June 30 next following their election; *Provided, however*, That the term of
18 office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected in the
19 [~~December 5, 2022~~] **MAY 2024** elections and subsequently thereafter, shall
20 commence at noon of [~~January 1~~] **JUNE 30** next following their election."

1 Sec. 3. *Hold-Over.* – Until their successors shall have been duly elected and
2 qualified, all incumbent barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials shall remain in
3 office, unless sooner removed or suspended for cause: *Provided,* That barangay and
4 sangguniang kabataan officials who are *ex officio* members of the sangguniang bayan,
5 sangguniang panlungsod, or sangguniang panlalawigan, as the case may be, shall
6 continue to serve as such members in the sanggunian concerned until the next
7 barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections.

8 Sec. 4. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this
9 Act shall be taken from the appropriations of the Commission on Elections under the
10 General Appropriations Act and/or supplementary appropriations thereafter.

11 Sec. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive
12 orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof,
13 which are contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are hereby
14 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

15 Sec. 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
16 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall
17 remain in force and effect.

18 Sec. 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect immediately following the
19 completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general
20 circulation.

21 *Approved,*