

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1639



Introduced by **REP. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**

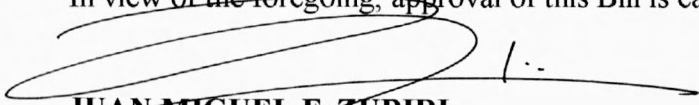
EXPLANATORY NOTE

One of the rights granted by the Constitution and other laws is that every all sectors of society should be given voice and representation. The right to represent and be represented is one crucial right in shaping the course of actions of our government.

In fact, such representation is extended to the youth. Though the intention of the law is clear and its objective focused on the would-be leaders of this country, it seems that negative news surround the Sangguniang Kabataan system of representation. Add to this the low turn-out of youth who registered in the recent July 15, 2002 Local Elections, it is deemed important to strengthen the provisions of the law on the Sangguniang Kabataan system.

This bill seeks to cure and provide for a system of balance and checks which is geared towards the elimination of certain allegations and reports of corruption in SK level. Likewise, this bill pursues a more definite role of those elected in SK positions.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

Representative

3rd District, Bukidnon

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1639

Introduced by **Rep. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**

AN ACT
TO STRENGTHEN AND REFORM THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN,
AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7160, 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:

SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as "The Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Law of 2004."

SECTION 2. *Katipunan ng Kabataan* - Section 424 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 424. Katipunan ng Kabataan - The Katipunan ng Kabataan shall be composed of all citizens of the Philippines actually residing in the barangays for at least six (6) months, who are AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) BUT NOT MORE THAN TWENTY-THREE (23) YEARS OF AGE, and who are registered in the list of the sangguniang kabataan secretary or in the official list of the barangay secretary.

SECTION 3. *Qualifications* - Section 428 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 428. Qualifications. - (a) An elective official of the sangguniang kabataan must be a citizen of the Philippines, a qualified voter of the katipunan ng kabataan, a resident of the barangay for at least one (1) year immediately prior to election, AT LEAST

EIGHTEEN (18) BUT NOT MORE THAN TWENTY-THREE (23) YEARS OF AGE on the day of his election, able to read and write Filipino, English, or the local dialect, and must not have been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude. ALL SK ELECTIVE OFFICIALS WHO ARE CURRENTLY STUDYING MUST BE ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL OR UNIVERSITY LOCATED WITHIN OR NEAREST THE MUNICIPALITY, CITY OR PROVINCE WHERE THE BARANGAY IS SITUATED. OTHERWISE, THE SUBJECT OFFICIAL SHALL BE DEEMED AUTOMATICALLY RESIGNED.

(b) A Sangguniang Kabataan official who, during his term of office, shall have passed the age of twenty-three (23) years shall be allowed to serve the remaining portion of the term for which he was elected.

SECTION 4. *Barangay Funds.* - Section 329 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 329. Barangay Funds. All the income of the barangay from whatever source shall accrue to its general fund and shall, at the option of the barangay concerned, be kept as trust fund in the custody of the city or municipal treasurer or be deposited in a bank, preferably government-owned, situated in or nearest to its area of jurisdiction. Such funds shall be disbursed in accordance with the provisions of this Title. At least ten percent (10%) of the general fund of the barangay shall be set aside for the Sangguniang Kabataan. THE SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY SHALL APPROPRIATE THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN FUND IN LUMP SUM. THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN WILL HAVE FISCAL AUTONOMY IN ITS OPERATIONS AS TO DISBURSEMENTS AND ENCASHMENT OF THEIR INCOME AND EXPENSES.

(A) PROCEDURE FOR REVIEWING OF BUDGETS:

- (1) ALL SK BUDGETS APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF A PARTICULAR SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL AND CITY SK FEDERATIONS WITHIN THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY OF EVERY YEAR. THE MUNICIPAL AND CITY SK FEDERATIONS SHALL REVIEW AND DELIBERATE ON THE BUDGET DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF JANUARY. ALL BUDGETS APPROVED BY THE MUNICIPAL AND CITY SK FEDERATION SHALL BE CERTIFIED AS APPROVED BY THE MUNICIPAL AND CITY SK FEDERATION PRESIDENTS.
- (2) THE MUNICIPAL AND CITY SK FEDERATIONS SHALL SUBMIT THE APPROVED SK BUDGETS OF THE RESPECTIVE MEMBER SK TO THE OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL SK FEDERATION WITHIN THE THIRD WEEK OF JANUARY. THE PROVINCIAL SK FEDERATION SHALL REVIEW THE SUBMITTED SK BUDGETS DURING THE FOURTH WEEK OF JANUARY. THE SK BUDGETS APPROVED BY THE PROVINCIAL FEDERATION SHALL BE CERTIFIED AS

APPROVED BY THE PROVINCIAL SK FEDERATION PRESIDENT.

- (3) ALL REALIGNMENTS IN BARANGAY SK BUDGETS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE MUNICIPALITY / CITY FEDERATION FOR ITS REVIEW AND SHALL BE DELIBERATED DURING THE REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE MUNICIPALITY / CITY FEDERATIONS. THE REALIGNMENT APPROVED BY THE MUNICIPAL / CITY FEDERATIONS SHALL BE CERTIFIED AS APPROVED BY THE MUNICIPALITY / CITY SK FEDERATION PRESIDENTS.
- (4) ALL BUDGETS AND REALIGNMENTS SHOULD BE DELIBERATED AND APPROVED BY THE MAJORITY OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION CONCERNED DURING ITS REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETINGS.

(B) ALLOCATION OF BUDGET:

- (1) THE BUDGET SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW TO THE MUNICIPAL, CITY AND PROVINCIAL SK FEDERATION SHOULD INCLUDE ALLOCATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING WITH THEIR PRESCRIBED PERCENTAGES:
 - 1.1 GREEN BRIGADE - 10%
 - 1.2 LIVELIHOOD - 20%
 - 1.3 CAPABILITY BUILDING - 20%
 - 1.4 ANTI-DRUG ABUSE CAMPAIGN - 10%
- (2) THE REMAINING FORTY PERCENT (40%) SHALL BE ALLOCATED BY THE SK DEPENDING ON THE NEEDS OF THE YOUTH IN THE BARANGAY AND FOR AS LONG AS IT IS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSE.

SECTION 5. *Creation and Election.* - Section 423 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 423. Creation and Election. - (a) There shall be in every barangay a sangguniang kabataan to be composed of a chairperson, seven (7) members, a secretary and a treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed by the Sangguniang Kabataan chairperson with concurrence from the Sangguniang Kabataan.

The Sangguniang Kabataan Chairman who is elected as Pederasyon President shall automatically serve as an Ex-officio member in special bodies, namely the LOCAL HEALTH BOARD, PEACE AND ORDER COUNCIL, LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL and LOCAL TOURISM COUNCIL. AS SUCH, HE SHALL HAVE THE SAME POWERS, DISCHARGE THE SAME DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS, AND ENJOY THE SAME PRIVILEGES AS THE REGULAR MEMBERS OF THESE SPECIAL BODIES.

(B) SCHEDULE OF ELECTIONS

THE NEXT DAY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONDUCT OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN GENERAL ELECTIONS, THE MUNICIPAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS OFFICER (MLGOO) CONCERNED SHALL CONVENE FOR FIVE (5) DAYS ALL THE NEWLY ELECTED AND QUALIFIED SK CHAIRMEN AT HIS JURISDICTION IN A CONDUCIVE AND NEUTRAL VENUE FOR THE AFORESAID PURPOSE. THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE RESPECTIVE SK SHALL BE HELD DURING THE FIFTH DAY. THE FIRST FOUR (4) DAYS SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR THE HOLDING OF THE INTEGRATED SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND REORIENTATION (ISKOLAR). BASIC ORIENTATION SEMINAR (BOS) WHICH SHALL PARTICULARLY FOCUS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENTAL MANAGEMENT SKILLS. THE MODULE SHALL INCLUDE AMONG OTHER THINGS THE PERIOD FOR THE MASS OATH-TAKING OF THE NEWLY ELECTED SK CHAIRMEN AND TO BE ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE PSK AND THE COMMITMENT EXERCISES.

THE NEXT DAY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONDUCT OF THE SK MUNICIPAL FEDERATION AND SK CITY FEDERATION RE-ORGANIZATION MEETINGS, ISKOLAR-BOS, AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS, THE PROVINCIAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS OFFICER (PLGOO) OR THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE METROPOLITAN POLITICAL SUBDIVISION CONCERNED SHALL CONVENE FOR FIVE (5) DAYS ALL THE DULY ELECTED QUALIFIED FEDERATION PRESIDENTS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES IN HIS JURISDICTION IN A CONDUCIVE AND NEUTRAL VENUE FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED PURPOSE. THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE RESPECTIVE PSK SHALL BE HELD DURING THE FIFTH DAY. THE FIRST FOUR (4) DAYS SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR THE HOLDING OF THE ISKOLAR TRAINING (PHASE II) WHICH SHALL PARTICULARLY FOCUS ON THE LOCAL LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES AND STRATEGIC PLANNING. THE MODULE SHALL ALSO INCLUDE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE PERIOD FOR THE OATH-TAKING OF THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE RESPECTIVE PSK AND THE COMMITMENT EXERCISES.

FIVE (5) DAYS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONDUCT OF THE SK PROVINCIAL FEDERATION AND SK METROPOLITAN FEDERATION ELECTIONS, THE INCUMBENT SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD THRU THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR HIS DULY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE SHALL CONVENE FOR ANOTHER FIVE (5) DAYS ALL THE DUTY ELECTED AND QUALIFIED FEDERATION PRESIDENTS OF ALL THE PROVINCES, INDEPENDENT COMPONENT CITIES, HIGHLY URBANIZED CITIES AND METROPOLITAN POLITICAL SUBDIVISION AT ANY APPROPRIATE VENUE WITHIN METRO MANILA FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE SK NATIONAL FEDERATION. THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN NATIONAL FEDERATION SHALL BE HELD

DURING THE THIRD DAY. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ELECTION, THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN NATIONAL FEDERATION SHALL TAKE THEIR OATH OF OFFICE BEFORE THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES OR IN HIS ABSENCE, TO ANY OFFICIAL OF THE REPUBLIC EXPLICITLY ALLOWED BY LAW TO ADMINISTER OATH. THE FIRST TWO (2) DAYS SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR THE DISCUSSION AND APPRAISAL OF THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL YOUTH SITUATIONER THAT WILL GOVERN THE NEXT SET OF OFFICERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN NATIONAL FEDERATION AND THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN NATIONAL FEDERATION ITSELF WHICH SHALL SERVE AS THE HIGHEST POLICY-MAKING BODY OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN. THE FOURTH AND FIFTH DAYS SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS THE FIRST SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN NATIONAL FEDERATION MEETING WITH THE ELECTED SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN NATIONAL FEDERATION PRESIDENT AS THE PRESIDING OFFICER. THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECRETARY OR HIS DULY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR THE RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FIELD OFFICERS IN THE CASE OF THE LOCAL FEDERATIONS, SHALL INITIALLY PRESIDE THE ELECTION PROPER. THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION (NYC) SHALL CONDUCT THE ISKOLAR TRAINING.

SECTION 6. *Sangguniang Kabataan Treasurer.* - Section 433 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 433. Sangguniang Kabataan Treasurer. - x x x

- (a) Take custody of all sangguniang kabataan property and funds, THE LATTER TO BE DEPOSITED IN A BANK PREFERABLY GOVERNMENT-OWNED, SITUATED IN OR NEAREST TO ITS AREA OF JURISDICTION, IN THE NAME OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN OR TO BE DEPOSITED TO THE CITY OR MUNICIPAL TREASURER
- (b) x x x
- (c) x x x
- (d) x x x
- (e) Submit to the Sangguniang Kabataan and to the Sangguniang Barangay certified and detailed statements of actual income and expenditures at the end of every QUARTER and the same shall be published or posted in the area designated for this purpose; and

(f) x x x

SECTION 7. *Privileges of Sangguniang Kabataan Officials* - Section 434 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 434. - Privileges of Sangguniang Kabataan Officials. - x x x

- (a) THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRMAN IN THE BARANGAY AND/OR THE SK FEDERATION PRESIDENT IN EACH FEDERATION LEVEL SHALL RECEIVE A MONTHLY HONORARIA OR SALARY CORRESPONDING TO THAT RECEIVED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIAN IN WHICH HE SITS AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.
- (b) SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN MEMBERS SHALL RECEIVE A MONTHLY HONORARIA EQUIVALENT TO TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE HONORARIUM RECEIVED BY THE SK CHAIRMAN, BUT IN NO CASE SHALL EXCEED TWO HUNDRED PESOS (P200.00) EACH PER MONTH WHICH SHALL BE APPROPRIATED FROM THE SK BUDGET.
- (c) THE SK CHAIRMAN SHALL BE CONSIDERED A PERSON IN AUTHORITY AS DEFINED BY LAW IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACTUAL DISCHARGE OF HIS OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS AS SUCH.
- (d) THE SANGGUNIANG KAGAWAD SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS AN AGENT OF PERSON IN AUTHORITY AS DEFINED BY LAW IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACTUAL DISCHARGE OF HIS OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS AS SUCH.

SECTION 8. *Succession and Filling of Vacancies*. - Section 435 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 435. Succession and Filling of Vacancies. - (a) In case a sangguniang kabataan chairperson refuses to assume office, fails to qualify, is convicted of a felony, voluntarily resigns, dies, is permanently incapacitated, is removed from office, or HAS BEEN ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE FOR MORE THAN THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE MONTHS AS MANIFESTED IN THE RECORDS OF THE SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY SESSIONS OR HAS BEEN ABASENT WITHOUT VALID REASON FOR TWO (2) CONSECUTIVE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN OR FOR FAILURE TO CALL A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN AND/OR OF MEETING OF THE KATIPUNAN NG KABATAAN, the Sangguniang Kabataan member who obtained the next highest number of votes in the election immediately preceding shall assume office of the chairman for the unexpired portion of the term, and shall discharge the powers and duties, and enjoy the rights and privileges appurtenant to the office. In case the said member refuses to assume the position or fails to qualify, the sangguniang kabataan member obtaining the next highest number of votes shall assume the position of the chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.”

“(b) x x x

“(c) x x x

“(d) x x x

“(e) IN CASE OF VACANCY IN THE POSITIONS OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN KAGAWADS, THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRPERSON SHALL SUBMIT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE KATIPUNAN NG MGA KABATAAN OF THE BARANGAY CONCERNED WITH CONCURRENCE FROM THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN, A LIST OF **AT LEAST THREE (3)** NOMINEES TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PANLUNGSOD/PAMBAYANG PEDERASYON NG SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN AS THE CASE MAY BE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE EXISTENCE OF VACANCY, AND LIKEWISE, MANDATING THE PRESIDENT OF THE PANLUNGSOD/PAMBAYANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN TO ACT ON THE SUBMITTED LIST WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS FROM RECEIPT THEREOF.

IN THE ABSENCE OF A REGULAR ELECTED CHAIRPERSON AND KAGAWADS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE PANLUNGSOD/PAMBAYANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN AS THE CASE MAY BE SHOULD SUBMIT A LIST OF **AT LEAST THREE (3) NOMINEES FOR EVERY POSITION** IN CONSULTATION WITH THE KATIPUNAN NG MGA KABATAAN OF THE BARANGAY CONCERNED, TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PANLALAWIGANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN WHO SHOULD ACT ON THE LIST WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS FROM RECEIPT HEREOF. IN CASE OF DELAY OR POSTPONEMENT OF FEDERATION ELECTIONS, THE DAYS EQUIVALENT TO THE DAYS OF POSTPONEMENT/DELAY BEFORE ITS FINAL COMMENCEMENT SHALL BE ADDED TO THE DAYS DURING WHICH THE RESPECTIVE PRESIDENT SHOULD ACT ON THE MATTERS HEREIN STATED.”

“(f) THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRMAN WHO IS ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF THE PEDERASYON SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY SUCCEEDED BY THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN MEMBER WHO OBTAINED THE NEXT HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES IN THE ELECTION IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING AND SHALL ASSUME THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE UNEXPIRED PORTION OF THE TERM, AND SHALL DISCHARGE THE POWERS AND DUTIES, AND ENJOY THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES APPURTENANT TO THE OFFICE.”

“(g) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN PEDERASYON WHO SHALL BE ELECTED AS THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN REGIONAL DIRECTOR IN THE PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN SHALL SERVE AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WITHOUT NEED OF FURTHER APPOINTMENT AND

SHALL HAVE THE SAME POWERS, DISCHARGE THE SAME DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS, AND ENJOY THE SAME PRIVILEGES AS REGULAR MEMBERS.”

SECTION 9. Section 436 of Republic Act No. 7160 is amended to read as follows:

Section 436. x x x

- (a) x x x
- (b) x x x
- (c) x x x
- (d) THE PRESIDENT OF THE PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN SHALL SERVE AS EX-OFFICIO COMMISSIONER OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION AS PROVIDED FOR BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8044. AS EX-OFFICIO COMMISSIONER, HE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO THE SAME RANK, COMPENSATION, RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF A DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT SECRETARY. THE ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN FROM WHICH THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT COMES FROM SHALL AUTOMATICALLY ASSUME THE POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE PEDERASYON WITHOUT NEED FOR FURTHER APPOINTMENT.
- (e) THE PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN SHALL MAINTAIN ITS OWN SECRETARIAT FOR EFFICIENT COORDINATION AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS PROGRAMS.
- (f) THE PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN SHALL BE INDEPENDENT OF ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND AGENCIES IN ITS OPERATIONS. IT SHALL DEVELOP ACTIVE LINES OF COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND AGENCIES AND SHALL BE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ITS POLICIES AND OPERATIONS. AT THE END OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR, IT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, THROUGH THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION, AN ANNUAL REPORT OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING A FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ALL ITS FUNDS AND DISBURSEMENTS.
- (g) THE PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE DONATIONS, REQUESTS, GRANTS AND FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES, INCLUDING

PROCEEDS FROM DRAWS OF THE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE (PCSO) SUBJECT TO THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF LAW.

- (h) THE PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM ALL FORMS OF TAXATION OR OTHER IMPOSITIONS, AND SHALL BE FREE FROM ALL DUTIES AND ALL OTHER IMPOSTS ON ANY EQUIPMENT, ARTICLES OR GOODS NECESSARY FOR ITS OPERATIONS.”

SECTION 10. *Constitution and By-Laws.* - The term of office, manner of election, removal, suspension AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION of the members and MEMBERS of the Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan shall at all levels AND THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN AT THE BARANGAY LEVEL shall be EXCLUSIVELY governed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Sangguniang Kabataan PROMULGATED AND RATIFIED BY THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN NATIONAL FEDERATION with the provisions of this Code and national policies of the youth.

THE PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN SHALL PROMULGATE THE APPROPRIATE GUIDELINES FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE PEDERASYON ELECTIONS AT ALL LEVELS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT; *PROVIDED*, THAT THE GROUNDS AND THE MANNER FOR THEIR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE SHALL BE CLEARLY STATED THEREIN.

THE CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT OF THE PEDERASYON AT ANY LEVEL, WHO IS REMOVED FROM HIS POSITION SHALL ALSO BE REMOVED IN THE SANGGUNIAN WHERE HE IS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

THE CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT OF THE PEDERASYON AT ANY LEVEL, OR THE SK CHAIRMAN WHEN REMOVED AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE SANGGUNIAN ON THE GROUNDS PROVIDED IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY REMOVED AS CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT OF THE PEDERASYON CONCERNED.”

SECTION 12. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be incorporated in the Annual General Appropriations Act/

SECTION 13. *Separability Clause.* - If any section or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, the remaining sections or provisions shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 14. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, letters of instruction, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 15. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.