

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4786



Introduced by **HONORABLE SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the mandate of the Constitution to bring about a more responsive and participative local government, thus giving more meaning and substance to people power. Upon the clamor of the residents themselves and based on the manageable territory and people, this bill seeks to create Elem, as a new barangay in the Municipality of Lebak, Province of Sultan Kudarat, separate and independent from its mother barangay.

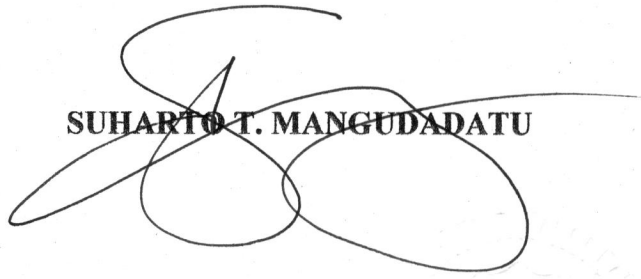
Inhabited mostly by the indigenous cultural minorities specifically the Tirurays and Manobos, the populace itself had expressed their desire for self-rule and development socially, politically, and economically.

Pursuant to Section 386 of the Local Government Code that "to enhance the delivery of basic services in the indigenous cultural communities, barangays may be created in such community by an Act of Congress".

Likewise, the State recognizes and promotes the rights of indigenous cultural communities including the right to development opportunities as embodied in the Constitution. The creation of a new barangay affirms this constitutional mandate whereby a community belonging to the Tiruray and Manobo tribes will have the right to manage their own affairs as they see fit.

We should also recognize the fact that through the years, they have been the caretakers of their ancestral lands. For this reason, it is only fitting to give them the right to manage and protect it. Considering the benefits of this creation to the people concerned, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU



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AN ACT
CREATING BARANGAY ELEM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LEBAK,
PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT

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

SEC. 1. *Creation of Barangay Elem.* – Sitio Elem is hereby constituted as a distinct and independent regular barangay to be known as Barangay Elem in the Municipality of Lebak, Province of Sultan Kudarat.

SEC. 2. *Holding of Plebiscite.* – Pursuant to Section 10 of Republic Act 7160, the new Barangay shall exist upon the majority votes cast by the qualified voters of Barangay Elem in a plebiscite to be conducted in the area affected under the supervision of the Commission on Election within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 3. *Barangay Officials.* – The first set of barangay officials of the said barangay shall be appointed by the Municipal Mayor of Lebak, and shall hold office until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

SEC. 4. *Public Infrastructures and Facilities.* – All existing public infrastructures and facilities for public use existing therein at the time of the approval of this Act are hereby transferred without cost of compensation to and shall be administered by the new barangay.

SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provision of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity*.- This Act shall take effect upon its approval, fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.