

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City**

**FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 2462

Introduced by HON. NELSON L. DAYANGHIRANG

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 9340 with the objective of resetting the Barangay and Sanguniang Kabataan Elections from October 2010 to October 2012.

The months leading to the first automated National Elections in 2010 captured the minds, thoughts and efforts of the Filipinos as the electorate struggled to decide whom to choose when the partisan voting came. While the elections was generally considered as successful with the election of new set of government officials, led by the landslide winner President Benigno Simeon "PNoy" Aquino III, the entire nation was focused on the elections causing so much fatigue, stress and financial strain.

According to President Aquino in his first SONA, the country is facing a deficiency of funds to address the basic social services and infrastructure requirements of the country. The President painted a scenario that needs wise prioritization of the national resources to ensure more production returns.

The scheduled 2010 Barangay elections would require billions of pesos which would be more productive if spent in the much-needed basic programs and services of the new administration.

In choosing from among the many important priorities, spending billions of pesos for the elections of the Barangay and Sanguniang kabataan officials would not be the most urgent. The government has already spent so much in the training and education of the current Barangay officials and just as they have sufficient experiences and knowledge of their jobs and responsibilities, we have to subject them to another expensive and divisive election.

Our people are now waiting for the dividends of progress and improvement from the landslide elections of President Aquino, but another election would have minimal contribution to that progress while at a very high cost. Resetting the Barangay and Sanguniang kabataan elections this year would give the government the much-needed fiscal resources and also avoid contributing to further budgetary deficit.

In view of the importance of this bill, early approval is earnestly sought.



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AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, RESETTling THE BARANGAY
AND SANGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS OF OCTOBER 2010 TO
OCTOBER 2012, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9340 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 1. Date of Election. – There shall be synchronized barangay and sanguniang kabataan elections which shall be held on October 29, 2007. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sanguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the last Monday of October 2012 and every three (3) years thereafter.”

Sec. 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9340 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4. Assumption of Office. – The term of office of the barangay and sanguniang kabataan officials elected under this Act shall commence on October 2007, next following their elections. The term of office of the barangay and sanguniang kabataan officials elected in the October 2007 election and subsequent elections shall commence at noon of November 30 next following their election.”

Sec. 3. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 9340 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be taken from the appropriation of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) under the General Appropriations Act and/or supplementary appropriations thereafter.

“In addition, the savings of the COMELEC not exceeding Three hundred million pesos (P300,000,000.00) shall be used to augment said appropriations

as authorized under COMELEC Special provision No. 2 of Republic Act 9162.

“The funds mentioned above may be augmented by an amount not exceeding ten percent (10%) of the sanguniang kabataan funds reserved pursuant to Section 532© of Republic Act No. 7160.”

Sec. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The COMELEC shall promulgate such rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

Sec. 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 6. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and thereby remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,