



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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4553

Introduced by Representative Tobias "Toby" Tiangco

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to repeal the sixteen (16) Cityhood Laws, namely: Republic Acts Nos. 9389, 9390, 9391, 9392, 9393, 9394, 9398, 9404, 9405, 9407, 9408, 9409, 9434, 9435, 9436, and 9491 which exempts certain municipalities from the income requirement under Republic Act No. 9009.

The conversion of the sixteen (16) municipalities into cities, without complying with the income requirement provided for under R.A. 9009, has spawned controversies and division in the various sectors of the government. The constitutionality of the cityhood laws has been a debate both in the legal and judicial community. The frequent change of mind of the Highest Tribunal has not put an end to the controversy. Thus, it is the opportune time for this Congress to do its Constitutional duty by way of abolishing the exemption given to the subject municipalities and by crafting a law that will reflect the clear intent of the legislature and consistent with the Constitution to avoid judicial controversy.

It must be noted that the power to make laws is lodged in the Legislative Department of the government. This has been expressly provided for in Article VI, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution, to wit:

"Section 1. The legislative power shall be vested in the Congress of the Philippines which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives, except to the extent reserved to the people by the provision on initiative and referendum."

The power of Congress to make laws carries with it the power to repeal and amend the same. Hence, this proposed measure is very much within the power of Congress.

The primary intent of the proposal is to avoid a dangerous precedent which the above-mentioned Republic Acts may set. R.A. No. 9009 has not been repealed or amended but its provisions are being disregarded which renders it a useless and toothless law.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of the proposed measure is highly requested.



Tobias "Toby" Tiangco



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AN ACT
REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NOS. 9389, 9390, 9391, 9392, 9393, 9394, 9398,
9404, 9405, 9407, 9408, 9409, 9434, 9435, 9436, AND 9491 ALSO KNOWN AS
THE 16 CITYHOOD LAWS

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

SECTION 1. Republic Act No. 9389, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Baybay in the Province of Leyte into a component city to be known as the City of Baybay."; Republic Act No. 9390, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Bogó, Cebu Province into a component city to be known as the City of Bogó."; Republic Act No. 9391, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Catbalogan in the Province of Samar into a component city to be known as the City of Catbalogan."; Republic Act No. 9392, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Tandag in the Province of Surigao del Sur into a component city to be known as the City of Tandag."; Republic Act No. 9394, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Borongan in the Province of Eastern Samar into a component city to be known as the City of Borongan."; Republic Act No. 9398, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Tayabas in the Province of Quezon into a component city to be known as the City of Tayabas."; Republic Act No. 9393, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Lamitan in the Province of Basilan into a component city to be known as the City of Lamitan."; Republic Act No. 9404, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Tabuk into a component city of the Province of Kalinga to be known as the City of Tabuk."; Republic Act No. 9405, entitled "An Act converting the Municipality of Bayugan in the Province of Agusan del Sur into a component city to be known as

the City of Bayugan.”; Republic Act No. 9407, entitled “An Act converting the Municipality of Batac in the Province of Ilocos Norte into a component city to be known as the City of Batac.”; Republic Act No. 9408, entitled “An Act converting the Municipality of Mati in the Province of Davao Oriental into a component city to be known as the City of Mati.”; Republic Act No. 9409, entitled “An Act converting the Municipality of Guihulngan in the Province of Negros Oriental into a component city to be known as the City of Guihulngan.”; Republic Act No. 9434, entitled “An Act converting the Municipality of Cabadbaran into a component city of the Province of Agusan Del Norte to be known as the City of Cabadbaran.”; Republic Act No. 9436, entitled “An Act converting the Municipality of Carcar in the Province of Cebu into a component city to be known as the City of Carcar.”; Republic Act No. 9435, entitled “An Act converting the Municipality of El Salvador in the Province of Misamis Oriental into a component city to be known as the City of El Salvador.” and; Republic Act No. 9491, entitled “An Act converting the Municipality of Naga in the Province of Cebu into a component city to be known as the City of Naga.” are hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,