



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Fifteenth Congress
2ND Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5962

Introduced by:

Representatives Guillermo A. Romarate, Jr., Francisco T. Matugas,
Philip A. Pichay, Florencio C. Garay,
Evelyn P. Mellana, Maria Valentina G. Plaza,
Ma. Angelica M. Amante-Matba and Jose S. Aquino II

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to postpone the next **Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections** slated on October 2013 by amending sections 1 and 2 of **RA No. 9340** otherwise known as "An Act Amending Republic Act No. 9164, Resetting the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections, and for other purposes."

As scheduled, the next Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections shall be held five months after the 2013 Senatorial and Local Elections. As in the past Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections, this is going to be another extremely divisive exercise at the most inappropriate time. It cannot be denied that elections whether at the National, Local or Barangay levels foster animosity, enmity and endless bickering between the candidates and their followers. Often, elections in many towns and provinces become violent, bloody and chaotic. The nation cannot afford that it will again descend into turmoil and heated political contest barely five months after it is to be submerged in one. Indubitably, the nation needs more than five months to lick its wounds.

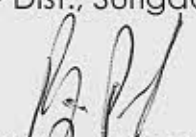
Staging two elections in one year distracts the government from its development undertakings and poverty alleviation efforts. This is utterly counter-productive as one election after another will hurl the nation back to mudslinging, political bickering and violent confrontations at a time when it is in the process already of regrouping and mending the damage wrought upon by a divisive political exercise.

Just as significant, the *Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections* will entail a sizable amount of expenditure on the part of the government and will likely hog a large chunk of the new government's budget for development and poverty alleviation. The government is expected to spend more than Three Billion Pesos for the next *Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections*. This is too much to set aside at a time when the limited resources of the government are not even enough to anchor all the critical macroeconomic initiatives.

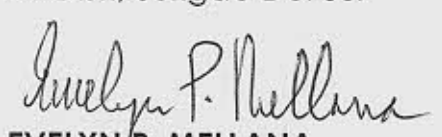
In this context, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



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1ST Dist., Agusan del Norte



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AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, RESETTING THE 2010
SYNCHRONIZED BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
ELECTIONS, 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 sangguniang kabataan elections which shall
be held on [July 15, 2002] **THE SECOND MONDAY OF MAY 2015**
[. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang
kabataan elections shall be held on the last Monday of

October 2007] and every (3) years after."

**"SUBJECT TO THE LAW ON AUTOMATION, ALL BARANGAY
AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS SHALL BE FULLY
AUTOMATED."**

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

"SECTION 4. EXTENSION OF TERMS/Assumption of Office. –
The term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected under this Act shall commence [on August 15, 2002] **AT NOON OF JULY 1**, next following their elections. [The term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected in the October 2007 election and subsequent elections shall commence at noon of November 30 next following their elections.]"

Sec. 3. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 4. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provision shall not be affected and hereby remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 5. *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,