

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 412



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ARTHUR C. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Historians often state that the Philippine Barangay system of government evolved from a council of village elders. A group of elders, who literally due to their advanced ages have gathered wisdom that could guide the younger members, were chosen to lead their communities.

This historical perspective is not unique to the Philippines. Even the Roman Government, upon which most modern republican governments were molded, started with the creation of the Roman Senate, coined from the term "Senatus", meaning council of elders.

Thus, since time immemorial, and not merely in the Philippines but everywhere in the world, people have not merely subscribed to heeding the advice of the elderly, but likewise allowed their leadership and governance.

In the present day however, the influence of the elderly, even in Barangay and small town politics, has started to diminish. Much worse, their representation in government has become very much insignificant.

It should be noted that in the year 2007, there were around 5.8 Million senior citizens, or those with ages 60 years old and above. This comprises around 6.5% of the entire population. It is projected that by the year 2030, the senior citizens would comprise 10% of the total population.

Yet still, the senior citizens have not been properly represented in government, starting from the Barangay government.

This should be contrasted with the youth sector which has representation in government, starting from the Barangay, through the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK). This, even though under Republic Act No. 9164, SK membership has been limited to those with ages 15 to not more than 18 years. It is needless to state that such is a very minute segment of the population.

A positive action is needed for the senior citizens and the elderly to have a voice in government.

Under this measure, the Local Government Code of 1991 shall be amended and a Sangguniang Senior Citizens and a Katipunan ng mga Senior Citizens shall be created. The Senior Citizens Sanggunian shall be elected, starting from the Barangay level, similar to the SK. The Chairman of the Senior Citizens Sanggunian shall also become an ex officio member of the Barangay Council.

The Senior Citizens Sanggunian shall likewise have Municipal, City and Provincial Federations. They shall have representation in the Sangguniang Pambayan, Panglungsod and Panglalawigan.

With this measure, not only are the senior citizens and the elderly going to be properly represented in government and continue to perform an active role in nation building. More important, we as a people would benefit from their wisdom and values which they have learned through the years.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of the bill is earnestly sought.



ARTHUR C. YAP
Representative

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ARTHUR C. YAP

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR REPRESENTATION IN ALL LEVELS OF
LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, CREATING
THE SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS, THE KATIPUNAN NG
SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING FOR THEIR POWERS AND
FUNCTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PERTINENT
SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610, AS AMENDED,
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.

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “Sangguniang Senior
2 Citizens Act of 2013”.

3 **SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It hereby declared the policy of the State
4 to allow the senior citizens and the elderly to be properly represented in government and
5 continue to perform an active role in nation building.

6 **SECTION 3. *Amendment of Section 423 of the Local Government Code.*** –
7 Section 423 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
8 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

9 "CHAPTER VIII

10 Sangguniang Kabataan AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR
11 **CITIZENS**

12 **SECTION 423. *Creation and Election.*** — (a) There shall be in
13 every barangay a sangguniang kabataan AND SANGGUNIANG

1 **SENIOR CITIZENS** to be composed of a chairman, [~~seven (7)~~] **FOUR**
2 **(4)** members, a secretary, and a treasurer.

3 (b) A sangguniang kabataan official who, during his term of
4 office, shall have passed the age of twenty-one (21) years shall be allowed
5 to serve the remaining portion of the term for which he was elected.”

6 **SECTION 4. *Amendment of Section 424 of the Local Government Code.*** –

7 Section 424 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
8 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

9 “SEC. 424. *Katipunan ng Kabataan* **AND KATIPUNAN NG**
10 **SENIOR CITIZENS.** — The katipunan ng kabataan **AND KATIPUNAN**
11 **NG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall be composed of Filipino citizens actually
12 residing in the barangay for at least six (6) months, **IN THE CASE OF**
13 **THE KATIPUNAN NG KABATAAN**, who are fifteen (15) but less than
14 eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the election, **AND IN THE**
15 **CASE OF KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS, WHO ARE**
16 **SIXTY (60) YEAR OF AGE OR MORE** and who are duly registered in
17 the list of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
18 **CITIZENS** or in the official barangay list in the custody of the barangay
19 secretary.

20 **SECTION 5. *Amendment of Section 425 of the Local Government Code.*** –

21 Section 425 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
22 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

23 **SECTION 425. *Meetings of the Katipunan ng Kabataan* AND**
24 **THE KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS.** — The katipunan ng
25 kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall meet at
26 least once every three (3) months, or at the call of the chairman of the
27 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** or
28 upon written petition of at least one-twentieth (1/20) of its members, to

1 decide on important issues affecting the youth **AND THE SENIOR**
2 **CITIZENS, RESPECTIVELY**, of the barangay.

3 **SECTION 6. *Amendment of Section 426 of the Local Government Code.*** –

4 Section 426 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
5 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

6 SECTION 426. *Powers and Functions of the Sangguniang*
7 *Kabataan* **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS.** — The
8 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
9 shall:

10 (a) Promulgate resolutions necessary to carry out the
11 objectives of the youth **AND THE SENIOR CITIZENS,**
12 **RESPECTIVELY**, in the barangay in accordance with the applicable
13 provisions of this Code;

14 (b) Initiate programs designed to enhance the social, political,
15 economic, cultural, intellectual, moral, spiritual, and physical development
16 of the members;

17 (c) Hold fund-raising activities, the proceeds of which shall be
18 tax-exempt and shall accrue to the general fund of the sangguniang
19 kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS:** Provided,
20 however, That in the appropriation thereof, the specific purpose for which
21 such activity has been held shall be first satisfied;

22 (d) Create such bodies or committees as it may deem necessary
23 to effectively carry out its programs and activities;

24 (e) Submit annual and end-of-term reports to the sangguniang
25 barangay on their projects and activities for the survival and development
26 of the youth **AND THE SENIOR CITIZENS** in the barangay;

27 (f) Consult and coordinate with all youth **AND SENIOR**
28 **CITIZENS** organizations in the barangay for policy formulation and
29 program implementation;

1 (g) Coordinate with the appropriate national agency for the
2 implementation of youth **AND SENIOR CITIZENS** development
3 projects and programs at the national level;

4 (h) Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties
5 and functions as the sangguniang barangay may determine or delegate or
6 as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

7 **SECTION 7. Amendment of Section 427 of the Local Government Code. –**

8 Section 427 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
9 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

10 SECTION 427. *Meetings of the Sangguniang Kabataan*
11 **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS.** — The sangguniang
12 kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall meet
13 regularly once a month on the date, time, and place to be fixed by the said
14 RESPECTIVE sanggunian. Special meetings may be called by the
15 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
16 chairman or any **TWO (2) [three (3)]** of its members by giving written
17 notice to all members of the date, time, place and agenda of the meeting at
18 least one (1) day in advance. Notices of regular or special meetings shall
19 be furnished the punong barangay and the sangguniang barangay.

20 A majority of the members of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
21 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** shall constitute a quorum.

22 **SECTION 8. Amendment of Section 428 of the Local Government Code. –**

23 Section 428 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
24 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

25 SEC. 428. *Qualifications.* — An elective official of the
26 sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
27 must be a Filipino citizen, a qualified voter of the katipunan ng kabataan
28 **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**, a resident of the barangay
29 for at least one (1) year immediately prior to election, at least fifteen (15)

1 years but less than eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the election
2 **FOR THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN AND SIXTY (60) YEARS**
3 **OF AGE OR MORE FOR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS,**
4 able to read and write Filipino, English, or the local dialect, and must not
5 have been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude."

6 **SECTION 9. *Amendment of Section 429 of the Local Government Code.* —**

7 Section 429 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
8 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

9 "SECTION 429. *Term of Office.* — The sangguniang kabataan
10 **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** chairman and members
11 shall hold office for a period of three (3) years, unless sooner removed for
12 cause as provided by law, permanently incapacitated, die or resign from
13 office.

14 **SECTION 10. *Amendment of Section 430 of the Local Government Code.* —**

15 Section 430 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
16 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

17 SECTION 430. *Sangguniang Kabataan AND*
18 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Chairman.** — The registered
19 voters of the katipunan ng kabataan **AND KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR**
20 **CITIZENS** shall elect the chairman of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
21 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** who shall BOTH automatically
22 serve as [an] ex officio memberS of the sangguniang barangay upon [his]
23 **THEIR** assumption to office. As such, [he] **THEY** shall exercise the
24 same powers, discharge the same duties and functions, and enjoy the same
25 privileges as the regular sangguniang barangay members, and shall be the
26 chairman of the committee on youth and sports development **AND**
27 **COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZES AFFAIRS, RESPECTIVELY,**
28 in the said sanggunian."

1 **SECTION 11. *Amendment of Section 431 of the Local Government Code.* –**

2 Section 431 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
3 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

4 “SECTION 431. *Powers and Duties of the Sangguniang*
5 *Kabataan AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Chairman.* — In
6 addition to the duties which may be assigned to **[him] THEM** by the
7 sangguniang barangay, the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
8 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS [chairman] CHAIRMEN**
9 shall:

10 (a) Call and preside over all meetings of the **RESPECTIVE**
11 katipunan ng kabataan **AND KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS**
12 and the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
13 **CITIZENS;**

14 (b) Implement policies, programs, and projects within his
15 jurisdiction in coordination with the sangguniang barangay;

16 (c) Exercise general supervision over the affairs and activities
17 of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
18 **CITIZENS** and the official conduct of its members, and such other
19 officers of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
20 **CITIZENS** within **[his] THEIR** jurisdiction;

21 (d) With the concurrence of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
22 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**, appoint from among the
23 members of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
24 **CITIZENS**, the secretary and treasurer and such other officers as may be
25 deemed necessary; and

26 (e) Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties
27 and functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

1 **SECTION 12. *Amendment of Section 432 of the Local Government Code.* –**

2 Section 432 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
3 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

4 SECTION 432. *Sangguniang Kabataan AND*
5 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Secretary.** — The
6 **RESPECTIVE** sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
7 **CITIZENS** secretary shall:

8 (a) Keep all records of the katipunan ng kabataan **AND**
9 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** and sangguniang kabataan **AND**
10 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;**

11 (b) Prepare and keep the minutes of all meetings of the
12 katipunan ng kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
13 and sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
14 **CITIZENS;**

15 (c) Prepare all forms necessary for the conduct of registrations,
16 elections, initiatives, referenda, or plebiscites, in coordination with the
17 barangay secretary and the COMELEC; and

18 (d) Perform such other duties and discharge such other
19 functions as the chairman of the sangguniang kabataan **AND**
20 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** may prescribe or direct.

21 **SECTION 13. *Amendment of Section 433 of the Local Government Code.* –**

22 Section 433 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
23 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

24 SECTION 433. *Sangguniang Kabataan AND*
25 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Treasurer.** — The
26 **RESPECTIVE** sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
27 **CITIZENS** treasurer shall:

1 (a) Take custody of all sangguniang kabataan AND
2 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** property and funds not
3 otherwise deposited with the city or municipal treasurer;

4 (b) Collect and receive contributions, monies, materials, and all
5 other resources intended for the sangguniang kabataan AND
6 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** and the katipunan ng kabataan
7 **AND KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS**;

8 (c) Disburse funds in accordance with an approved budget of
9 the sangguniang kabataan AND **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**;

10 (d) Certify to the availability of funds whenever necessary;

11 (e) Submit to the sangguniang kabataan AND
12 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** and to the sangguniang
13 barangay certified and detailed statements of actual income and
14 expenditures at the end of every month; and

15 (f) Perform such other duties and discharge such other
16 functions as the chairman of the sangguniang kabataan AND
17 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** may direct.

18 **SECTION 14. *Amendment of Section 434 of the Local Government Code.*** –

19 Section 434 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
20 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

21 **SECTION 434. *Privileges of Sangguniang Kabataan AND***
22 ***SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS Officials.*** — The **RESPECTIVE**
23 sangguniang kabataan AND **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
24 chairman shall have the same privileges enjoyed by other sangguniang
25 barangay officials under this Code subject to such requirements and
26 limitations provided herein. During their incumbency, sangguniang
27 kabataan AND **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** officials shall be
28 exempt from payment of tuition and matriculation fees while enrolled in
29 public tertiary schools, including state colleges and universities. The

1 National Government shall reimburse said college or university the
2 amount of the tuition and matriculation fees: Provided, That, to qualify for
3 the privilege, the said officials shall enroll in a state college or university
4 within or nearest their area of jurisdiction.

5 **SECTION 3. *Amendment of Section 435 of the Local Government Code.* –**

6 Section 435 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
7 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

8 **SECTION 435. *Succession and Filling of Vacancies.* — (a)** In case
9 a sangguniang kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
10 chairman refuses to assume office, fails to qualify, is convicted of a
11 felony, voluntarily resigns, dies, is permanently incapacitated, is removed
12 from office, or has been absent without leave for more than three (3)
13 consecutive months, the sangguniang kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG**
14 **SENIOR CITIZENS** member who obtained the next highest number of
15 votes in the election immediately preceding shall assume the office of the
16 chairman for the unexpired portion of the term, and shall discharge the
17 powers and duties, and enjoy the rights and privileges appurtenant to the
18 office. In case the said member refuses to assume the position or fails to
19 qualify, the sangguniang kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR**
20 **CITIZENS** member obtaining the next highest number of votes shall
21 assume the position of the chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

22 (b) Where two (2) or more sangguniang kabataan **OR**
23 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** members obtained the same
24 next highest number of votes, the other sangguniang kabataan **OR**
25 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** members shall conduct an
26 election to choose the successor to the chairman from among the said
27 members.

28 (c) After the vacancy shall have been filled, the sangguniang
29 kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** chairman shall

1 call a special election to complete the membership of said sanggunian.
2 Such sangguniang kabataan **OR SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
3 member shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of the
4 vacant seat.

5 (d) In case of suspension of the sangguniang kabataan **OR**
6 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** chairman, the successor, as
7 determined in subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall assume the
8 position during the period of such suspension.

9 **SECTION 16. *Amendment of Section 436 of the Local Government Code.* –**

10 Section 436 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
11 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

12 **CHAPTER IX**

13 **Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan AND**
14 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**

15 **SECTION 436. *Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan***
16 ***AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS.* — (a)** There shall be an
17 organization of all the pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND**
18 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** to be known as follows:

19 (1) In municipalities, pambayang pederasyon ng mga
20 sangguniang kabataan **AND PAMBAYANG PEDERASYON NG MGA**
21 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;**

22 (2) In cities, panlungsod na pederasyon ng mga sangguniang
23 kabataan **AND PANGLUNGSOD NA PEDERASYON NG MGA**
24 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;**

25 (3) In provinces, panlalawigang pederasyon ng mga
26 sangguniang kabataan **AND PANLALAWIGANG PEDERASYON NG**
27 **MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS;**

28 (4) In special metropolitan political subdivisions,
29 pangmetropolitang pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND**

1 **PANGMETROPOLITANG PEDERASYON NG MGA**
2 **SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS; and**

3 (5) On the national level, pambansang pederasyon ng mga
4 sangguniang kabataan **AND PAMBANSANG PEDERASYON NG**
5 **MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS.**

6 (b) The pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND**
7 **PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS**
8 shall, at all levels, elect from among themselves the president, vice-
9 president and such other officers as may be necessary and shall be
10 organized in the following manner:

11 (1) The panlungsod and pambayang pederasyon shall be
12 composed of the sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG**
13 **SENIOR CITIZENS** chairmen of barangays in the city or municipality,
14 respectively;

15 (2) The panlalawigang pederasyon shall be composed of
16 presidents of the panlungsod and pambayang pederasyon;

17 (3) The pangmetropolitang pederasyon shall be composed of
18 presidents of the panlungsod and pambayang pederasyon;

19 (c) The elected presidents of the pederasyon at the provincial,
20 highly urbanized city, and metropolitan political subdivision levels shall
21 constitute the pambansang katipunan ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND**
22 **PAMBANSANG KATIPUNAN NG MGA SENIOR CITIZENS.**

23 **SECTION 17. *Amendment of Section 437 of the Local Government Code.* —**

24 Section 437 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
25 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

26 **SECTION 437. *Constitution and By-Laws.* —** The term of
27 office, manner of election, removal and suspension of the officers of the
28 pederasyon ng mga sangguniang kabataan **AND PEDERASYON NG**
29 **MGA SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS** at all levels shall be

1 governed by the constitution and by-laws of the pederasyon in conformity
2 with the provisions of this Code and national policies on youth **AND**
3 **SENIOR CITIZENS.**

4 **SECTION 18. *Amendment of Section 438 of the Local Government Code.* –**

5 Section 438 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code
6 of 1991, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

7 **SECTION 438. *Membership in the Sanggunian.* — (a) A**
8 **sangguniang kabataan **AND SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS****
9 **chairman shall, upon certification of his election by the COMELEC and**
10 **during his tenure of office is elected as pederasyon president, serve as an**
11 **ex officio member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang**
12 **panlungsod, and sangguniang bayan, as the case may be, without need of**
13 **further appointment.**

14 (b) The vice-president of the pederasyon whose president has
15 been elected as president of a higher pederasyon shall serve as ex officio
16 member of the sanggunian concerned without need of further appointment.

17 (c) The pederasyon president or vice-president, as the case
18 may be, **OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN** shall be the chairman
19 of the committee on youth and sports development, **WHILE THAT OF**
20 **THE SANGGUNIANG SENIOR CITIZENS SHALL BE THE**
21 **CHAIRMAN OF SENIOR CITIZENS AFFAIRS** of the sanggunian
22 concerned.

23 **SECTION 19. *Separability Clause.* -** If any provision of this Act, or any parts
24 thereof, is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity
25 of the other portions.

26 **SECTION 20. *Repealing Clause.* -** All laws, executive orders, presidential
27 decrees, proclamations, rules, regulations, issuances and enactments of parts thereof
28 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

1 **SECTION 21. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its
2 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in
3 the Philippines, whichever comes earlier.

APPROVED.