

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 500



Introduced by **Hon. Rodolfo G. Biazon**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sangguniang Barangays are the front-liners in the delivery of government services to the people. As such, they have the primary responsibility of addressing the needs of their constituents, often requiring them to communicate with other agencies in the national and local government.

However, the limited budgets of Sangguniang Barangays also limit their capability to send communications essential to the performance of their duties. To address this predicament, this bill proposes to grant Sangguniang Barangays limited franking privileges for communications sent to other government agencies.

In order to further enhance the autonomy of the most basic local government unit, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Representative
Lone District, Muntinlupa City

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AN ACT
GRANTING FRANKING PRIVILEGES TO SANGGUNIANG BARANGAYS

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

SECTION 1. Franking privilege is hereby granted to Sangguniang Barangays. For this purpose the Sangguniang Barangays shall be exempt from the payment of postage on any mail matter they send to government agencies and officials, both local and national: Provided, That this exemption shall only be available to assist and expedite the conduct of the official businesses, activities and duties of the Sangguniang Barangays, and shall not be utilized for matters which are purely personal or politically partisan.

Sec. 2. All official mail availing of this franking privilege must be sealed in an official envelope indicating therein the name of the Sangguniang Barangay, with the Official Seal of the Republic of the Philippines on the left hand corner and the printed penalty clause on the right hand corner.

Sec. 3. The Secretary of Transportation and Communications shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

Sec. 4. Private or unauthorized use of the franking privilege shall be penalized by a fine of one thousand pesos (P1,000.00).

Sec. 5. This Act shall take effect upon approval.

Approved,