

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1125

Introduced by HON. FLORENCIO C. GARAY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Office of the Sangguniang Kabataan was established to encourage the youth to participate in community development and nation-building. More than a decade after its formal inception, it has become apparent that the elected youth officials have failed to uphold the mission for which the office of the Sangguniang Kabataan was created.

In a joint study made by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the University of the Philippines on the impact of youth participation in the local government process, it was revealed that the performance of the Sangguniang Kabataan has been generally weak, especially in coming up with relevant legislations, promoting the development of the youth, submitting reports and holding consultations with constituents. The Sangguniang Kabataan lamentably failed in its mission to enhance the social, political, economic, cultural, intellectual, moral, spiritual and physical development of our youth.

However, there remains the unspoken goal for which the Office of the Sangguniang Kabataan was created: *to bridge generation of leaders by helping new ones to emerge*. Recognizing this need for a true youth participation in governance, this bill seeks to abolish the Office of the Sangguniang Kabataan, and provide for the election of a Youth Sector Representative in its stead.

Considering its vital importance, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


FLORENCIO C. GARAY

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AN ACT

ABOLISHING THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, AND IN LIEU THEREOF, PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTION OF A YOUTH SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE IN EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT

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

SECTION 1. Chapters Eight (8) and Nine (9), Title One, Book III of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, are hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof shall read as follows:

SEC. 2. *Creation and Election of a Youth Sector Representative.*

- (a) There shall be in every Barangay a Youth Sector Representative to be voted from among those between the ages of eighteen (18) to twenty-five (25) years;
- (b) A Youth Sector Representative who, during his/her term of office, shall have passed the age of twenty-five (25) years shall be allowed to serve the remaining portion of the term for which he/she was elected;
- (c) The Youth sector representative shall be a regular member of the sangguniang barangay;

SEC. 3. *Qualifications.* No person may be elected Youth Sector Representative unless he is:

- (a) a citizen of the Philippines;
- (b) a registered voter in the barangay where he intends to be elected;
- (c) a resident therein for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the day of the election;
- (d) able to read and write in Filipino, English or any other local language or dialect; and
- (e) at least eighteen (18) years but not more than twenty-five years of age on the day of the election.

SEC. 4. *Disqualifications.* The following shall not be nominated as a candidate for Youth Sector Representative:

- (a) Those who have been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude;
- (b) Those with dual citizenship; and
- (c) The insane or feeble-minded.

SEC. 5. *Qualified Voters.*

- (a) All registered voters in the *barangay* are qualified to vote for their Youth Sector Representative to the *sangguniang barangay*;
- (b) In the case of Youth Sector representatives to the *sangguniang bayan* or *sangguniang panlungsod*, only those elected Youth Sector Representatives to the *sangguniang barangay* shall be allowed to vote;
- (c) In the case of Youth sector representative to the *sangguniang panlalawigan*, only those elected Youth sector Representatives to the *sangguniang bayan* or *sangguniang panlungsod* shall be qualified to vote.

SEC. 6. *Term of Office.* The Youth Sector Representative shall hold office for a period of five (5) years, unless sooner removed for cause as provided by law, becomes permanently incapacitated, dies or resigns from office.

SEC. 7. *No Vacancy Created.* No vacancy will be created by the election of a Youth sector Representative of the *sangguniang barangay* to the position of Youth sector Representative to the *sangguniang bayan*, *sangguniang panlungsod* or *sangguniang panlalawigan*.

SEC. 8. *Date of Elections.* The election of the Youth Sector Representative to the *sangguniang barangay* shall coincide with the next barangay elections and the election of the Youth Sector Representative to the

sangguniang bayan or *sangguniang panlungsod* shall be held thirty (30) days after said election. The election of the Youth Sector Representative to the *sangguniang panlalawigan* shall be held thirty (30) days after the election of the Youth Sector Representative to the *sangguniang bayan* or *sangguniang panlungsod*.

SEC. 9. *Conduct and Supervision of Elections: Applicability of the Omnibus Election Code and Other Existing Laws.* The Commission on Elections shall conduct and supervise the election of the Youth Sector Representatives to the *sanggunians* as herein provided. In addition to the powers vested in the said Commission under the Constitution and other existing election laws, it shall formulate the necessary guidelines and promulgate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

Any and all provisions of the Omnibus Election Code and other pertinent and existing election laws, so far as they are not inconsistent herewith, shall be applicable to the elections under this Act.

SEC. 10. *Appropriations.* Such sum as may be necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* If any provisions of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,