

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 1991



Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE MAGNOLIA ROSA ANTONINO-NADRES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Filipino electorates had just elected national and local officials in the country last May 13, 2013. However, after barely five (5) months from the said political exercise, we will be holding again the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections even when the COMELEC officials and employees, teachers, members of civic and religious organizations, who are directly involved in the election activities had barely warmed their seats and the sore losers have yet to accept their fate gracefully. This situation which started in 2002 after the effectivity of Republic Act No. 9164 will go on and on if this law will not be amended. Let us then give a much longer breathing space to all those who are directly involved in the elections from the COMELEC, teachers, watchers, public officials, candidates and electorates by holding the barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections a year after every local and national elections.

It is worthy to mention that the election of barangay and sangguniang kabataan is supposed to be a non-partisan political activity. However, our experience in the past elections has shown time and again that barangay election cannot be totally insulated from the undue influence of partisan politics. Certainly, it has caused divisiveness and has its share of some deplorable practices that trigger instances of violence among political leaders and supporters.

It is therefore the paramount objective of this bill to reset the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections scheduled to be held on the last Monday of October 2013 to the last Monday of October 2014. This will definitely allow the Filipino people to take a little longer pause before immersing themselves again into another political battle that will certainly disturb the peaceful condition at the local level. It will also generate savings for the cash-strapped government of around Three Billion Pesos (P3 Billion) according to the cost estimate made by the COMELEC.

The foregoing reasons warrant the immediate approval of this bill.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Magna", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

MAGNOLIA ROSA ANTONINO-NADRES

Representative
Fourth District, Nueva Ecija

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 1991

Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE MAGNOLIA ROSA ANTONINO-NADRES

AN ACT
RESETTING THE BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
ELECTIONS, FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT No. 9164 AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended, is hereby further 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. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the last Monday of October [2007] **2014** and every three years (3) years thereafter.”

SEC. 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. *Assumption of Office.* – The term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected under this Act shall commence on August 15, 2002, next following their elections. The term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected in the October [2007] 2014 election and subsequent elections shall commence at noon of November 30 next following their election.”

SEC. 3. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended, pertaining to the hold over capacity of all incumbent barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 4. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be taken from the appropriations of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) under the General Appropriations Act of the year and/or supplementary appropriations thereafter.

The funds mentioned above may be augmented by an amount not exceeding ten percent (10%) of the sangguniang kabataan funds reserved pursuant to Section 532 (c) of Republic Act No. 7160 as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The COMELEC shall issue the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and thereby remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,