

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5006



Introduced by REP. ANTHONY G. DEL ROSARIO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to postpone anew the sangguniang kabataan (SK) elections, set by the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) to be held on February 21, 2015, and likewise to synchronize it with the next barangay elections on the last Monday of October 2016.

Approved by President Benigno S. Aquino III on October 3, 2013, Republic Act 10632 otherwise known as "An Act to Postpone the Sangguniang Kabataan Elections on October 28, 2013" was enacted to pave the way for the much needed reforms that would address SK's alleged shortcomings. Some of the criticisms leveled against it are: the exposure of its members to a highly political exercise where patronage and kinship politics influence youth governance; the incapacity of its officers and members to enter into contracts due to age; and the weak internal control mechanisms that put at risk the utilization of the youth councils funds from the barangay allocations.

To answer the call for reforms, several bills have been filed and deliberated on in Congress—both for introduction of reforms and abolition by replacing the current youth representation system with another that will provide greater transparency and accountability. However, because of equally pressing legislative concerns that both Houses of Congress have to attend to, the deadline to pass the SK reform bill has not been met. Besides, bringing about desirable reforms for SK requires a longer time of careful study and scrutiny.

This measure intends to provide for more time for our lawmakers to discuss and introduce the necessary reforms needed by the SK in order to strengthen and enable it to be truly effective in complying with its mandate. It is also the intent of this proposed measure to provide the COMELEC the breathing space it needs to fully focus its efforts and resources on the forthcoming national and local elections.

In view thereof, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


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AN ACT
TO POSTPONE THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS ON FEBRUARY 21,
2015, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 10632, 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 as amended by Republic Act No. 10632 is 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 and every three (3) years thereafter: Provided, That the sangguniang kabataan elections on October 28, 2013 shall be postponed to [a date to be determined by the COMELEC between October 28, 2014 and February 23, 2015.] **THE LAST MONDAY OF OCTOBER 2016.**

SEC. 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government shall promulgate such rules and regulations necessary within thirty (30) days after its effectivity to implement this Act.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All general and special laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations and administrative regulations, or any parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC.5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, such sections or parts not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,