

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



Seventeenth Congress  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7872

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Introduced by  
**REPRESENTATIVE ALFREDO B. BENITEZ**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

It has been the long-standing policy of the State to enable and equip local government units with the necessary powers "to attain their fullest development as self-reliant communities and make them more effective partners in the attainment of national goals."

The most effective governors are those who spend time and are the closest to the governed. Elective barangay officials are the closest government officials to our constituents. They are the first responders, the first to aid, "*unang takbuhan*." As Members of the honorable chamber of the Lower House, we are aware that three (3) years is too short of a term to affect services and policies that will bring valuable and meaningful change to the community.

To extend the term limit of elective barangay officials and sangguniang kabataan is to help the national government unload its already heavy burden on providing services and reaching out to our people.

Accordingly, I am one with our barangay officials and sangguniang kabataan on empowering and enabling them to affect meaningful and valuable change by giving them the most precious resource of all, TIME.

  
**ALFREDO B. BENITEZ**  
3rd District, Negros Occidental

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**AN ACT CHANGING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF ELECTIVE BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIAN KABATAAN FROM THREE (3) YEARS TO FIVE (5) YEARS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164 AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NOS. 9340, 10632, 10656, 10923, 10952 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**Section 1.** Section 1 of Republic Act (RA) No. 9164, as amended by RA Nos. 9340, 10632, 10656, 10923, and 10952, 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 and every three (3) years thereafter. *Provided,* That the barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections on October 23, 2017 shall be postponed to the second Monday of May 2018. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the second Monday of May 2020 **and every five (5) years thereafter.**"

**Section 2.** Section 1 of RA No. 9164 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

**Section 2. *Term of Office.*** –The term of office of all barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials after the effectivity of this Act shall be five (5) years.

No barangay elective official shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position: *Provided,* however, That the term of office shall be reckoned from the 1994 barangay elections. Voluntary renunciation of office for any length of time shall not be considered as an interruption in the continuity of service for the full term for which the elective official was elected.

**Section 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** The Commission on Elections shall promulgate such rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

**Section 4. *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.

**Section 5. *Repealing Clause.*** – All decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 6. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect immediately following the completion of its publication either. In the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.