

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8982



Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**
Party-List Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State, under Article II, Section 13, upholds “the vital role of the youth in nation-building” and is therefore committed to “promot[ing] and protect[ing] their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being” by “inculcate in [them] patriotism and nationalism, and encourag[ing] their involvement in public and civic affairs.” This has led to the enactment of Republic Act No. 10742 (“Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act of 2015”), through Section 2 of which the State has taken on the task of “establish[ing] adequate, effective, responsive and enabling mechanisms and support systems that will ensure the meaningful participation of the youth in local governance and in nation-building.”

However, as the National Youth Commission (NYC) itself points out:¹

[S]ince the implementation of [Republic Act No. 10742 (“SK Reform Act of 2015”)] in 2016, there has already been considerable clamor from the SK Officials on the ground to amend certain provisions from the law. **The SKs and relevant stakeholders have raised three (3) main issues, namely: 1) Lack of honoraria and compensation for SK Officials; 2) Lack of funds for the formulation of Local Youth Development Plans; and 3) the Lack of LYDOs and Appointed Youth Development Officers.**

The Commission acknowledges that although the SK Reform Act of 2015 has brought successes in many fronts, the aforementioned issues deem it prudent for the law to be further amended. The lack of a coherent national policy on SKs’ functions and appropriation leaves some of its operations ineffective and Officials inefficient. (emphasis provided)

Hence, this Bill, which seeks to directly address the three areas of concern identified by the NYC.

¹ National Youth Commission, “Proposed Amendments to Republic Act No. 10742 otherwise known as the ‘Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act of 2015’,” available at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PpMgn2gtFSsa04YsJrOJya5PoCRae3W2/view?fbclid=IwAR0nhILMya-UNn38GSKIF61JEc0t0QC2UixZ4GrZvj7TjA-N0o-hy8ByLQ>.

1 More importantly, though, this Bill aims to put forth amendments to
2 the SK Reform Act of 2015 that are specifically nuanced by considerations of
3 the circumstances in the New Normal. This Bills accounts for the need to have
4 a generation of SK that can innovatively, competently, and compassionately
5 lead their constituents in overcoming the novel challenges—both social and
6 economic—that have cropped up due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

7
8 For this reason, this Bill’s response to the NYC’s three major areas of
9 concern are calibrated for enabling, and incentivizing, the SK to find ways
10 around local problems regarding (1) blended/online learning and (2) lack of
11 job opportunities.

12
13 This Bill takes inspiration from the following SKs that, in the course of
14 serving their constituents in the midst of this pandemic, have truly
15 distinguished themselves as exemplary public servants:

- 16
17 1. The Sangguniang Kabataan of Dingalan: “launched malunggay tea stations in
18 their respective barangays and...promoted its health benefits to...constituents [of]
19 all ages.”²
- 20 2. The Sangguniang Kabataan and youth volunteers of Barangay Dila, Laguna:
21 “initiated a free ride project named Barangay P2P Service,” with passengers
22 provided with sanitizers.³
- 23 3. The Sangguniang Kabataan of Manila City: visited households to distribute soap
24 and rubbing alcohol, as well as to disseminate information on how to properly
25 conduct disinfection.⁴

26
27 It is for the foregoing premises that the approval of this Bill is earnestly
28 sought.

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ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS

Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party-List

² Department of Interior and Local Government – Bureau of Local Government Development, “Innovations, Creativity amidst COVID-19 Crisis,” available at https://dilg.gov.ph/PDF_File/reports_resources/dilg-reports-resources-2020429_0e80811da2.pdf.

³ Id.

⁴ City of Manila, “TINGNAN: Nakikiisa ang mga Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) sa Lungsod ng Maynila sa implementasyon ng Contain and Delay (CODE) COVID-19 action plan na ipinagutos ni Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso,” March 15, 2020, available at <http://manila.gov.ph/2020/03/tingnan-nakikiisa-ang-mga-sangguniang-kabataan-sk-sa-lungsod-ng-maynila-sa-implementasyon-ng-contain-and-delay-code-covid-19-action-plan-na-ipinag-utos-ni-mayor-francisco-isko-moreno/>.

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Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**
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**AN ACT AMENDING
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10742, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “SK REFORM
ACT OF 2015”**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “SK
Revitalization Act of 2020.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes its duty to
enable the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) officials, in their capacity as youth
leaders, as active and innovative participants in nation-building. In light of
the COVID-19 pandemic, the State acknowledges the necessity of providing
them with the resources, manpower, and training that they need for safely,
dutifully carrying out their responsibilities to their constituents, the most
pressing of which would be addressing concerns on accessible education and
market-responsive skills training for adapting to the ‘new normal.’

SECTION 3. Section 8 of Republic Act 10742, otherwise known as the
“Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act of 2015,” is hereby further amended to
read as follows:

SEC. 8. Powers and Functions of the Sangguniang Kabataan. –
The Sangguniang Kabataan shall:

(j) WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THEIR ASSUMPTION TO OFFICE,
THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN SHALL (1) FORMULATE AND
APPROVE ITS INTERNAL RULES AND PROCEDURE (2)
APPOINT ITS SECRETARY AND TREASURER AND; (3) SET THE
SCHEDULE OF REGULAR SK MEETINGS AND KK
ASSEMBLIES.

1 (k) Exercise such other powers and perform such other functions
2 as may be prescribed by law or ordinance, or delegated by the
3 Sangguniang Barangay or the Commission.
4

5 SECTION 4. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 10742 is hereby amended
6 to read as follows:
7

8 Sec. 10. Qualifications. - An official of the Sangguniang
9 Kabataan, either elective or appointee, must be a citizen of the
10 Philippines, a qualified voter of the Katipunan ng Kabataan, a
11 resident of the barangay for not less than one (1) year
12 immediately preceding the day of the elections, at least eighteen
13 (18) years but not more than twenty-four (24) years of age on the
14 day of the elections, able to read and write Filipino, English, or
15 the local dialect, must not be related within the second civil
16 degree of consanguinity or affinity to any incumbent elected
17 national official or to any incumbent elected regional, provincial,
18 city, municipal, or barangay official, in the locality where he or
19 she seeks to be elected, and must not have been convicted by
20 final judgment of any crime involving moral turpitude.
21 PROVIDED, THAT THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
22 TREASURER MUST BE AT LEAST EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS BUT
23 NOT MORE THAN THIRTY (30) YEARS OF AGE ON THE DAY OF
24 THE ELECTIONS: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE
25 SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRPERSON SHALL ENDEAVOR
26 TO APPOINT A TREASURER WITH AN EDUCATIONAL AND/OR
27 CAREER BACKGROUND RELATING TO FINANCE,
28 ACCOUNTING, ECONOMICS, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION,
29 BOOKKEEPING OR ANY OTHER RELATED FIELD.
30

31 SECTION 5. Section 13 of Republic Act 10742 is hereby further
32 amended to read as follows:
33

34 Sec. 13. Powers and functions of the Sangguniang Kabataan
35 Chairperson. The Sangguniang Kabataan chairperson shall
36 exercise such powers and discharge such duties as follows:
37

38 (f) With the concurrence of the Sangguniang Kabataan, appoint
39 from among the members of the Katipunan ng Kabataan a
40 secretary and a treasurer. THE CHAIRPERSON MAY OPT TO
41 APPOINT A SECRETARY AND TREASURER FROM AMONG THE
42 SK MEMBERS.
43

44 SECTION 6. Section 16 of Republic Act 10742 is hereby further
45 amended to read as follows:
46

47 Sec. 16. Privileges of Sangguniang Kabataan Officials. - (a) All
48 Sangguniang Kabataan officials in good standing, whether
49 elected or appointed, shall, be granted the following privileges:

(2) BE EXEMPTED FROM TAKING ANY OF THE COMPONENTS OF THE NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM (NSTP);

(6) RECEIVE AN HONORARIUM WHICH SHALL BE CHARGEABLE AGAINST THE SK FUNDS: PROVIDED, THAT NOT MORE THAN 20% OF THE FUNDS WILL BE ALLOCATED FOR PERSONNEL SERVICES: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE AMOUNT RECEIVED OF THE SK OFFICIALS SHALL NOT BE GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT RECEIVED BY THE SK CHAIRPERSON: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE AMOUNT SHALL NOT BE GREATER THAN THE EQUIVALENT OF A SALARY GRADE NINE (9) GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE;

(7) BE ENTITLED TO APPROPRIATE CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY, PURSUANT TO RULES AND REGULATIONS ISSUED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: PROVIDED, THAT THE SK OFFICIAL HAS RENDERED THEIR FULL TERM OF OFFICE;

(8) The Sangguniang Kabataan chairperson shall have the same privileges enjoyed by other Sangguniang Barangay officials under this Act subject to such requirements and limitations provided herein.

SECTION 7. Sec. 19 of Republic Act 10742 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Sec. 19. Succession and Filling up of Vacancies - (a) In case a Sangguniang Kabataan chairperson refuses to assume office, fails to qualify, voluntarily resigns, dies, is permanently incapacitated, is removed from office, the Sangguniang Kabataan member who obtained the highest number of votes in the election immediately preceding shall assumed the office of the chairperson for the unexpired portion of his or her term. In case said member refuses to assume the position or fails to qualify, the Sangguniang Kabataan member obtaining the next highest number of votes shall assume the position of the chairperson for the unexpired portion of the term: PROVIDED, THAT, IF THE REASON FOR THE VACANCY DOES NOT FALL UNDER THE CONDITIONS STATED ABOVE, THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) SHALL APPOINT AN OFFICER-IN-CHARGE (OIC): PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE APPOINTED OIC MUST MEET THE QUALIFICATIONS SET UNDER SECTION 10 OF THIS ACT.

SECTION 8. Section 20 of Republic Act 10742 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

1
2 (c) All Sangguniang Kabataan funds shall be allocated in an
3 annual budget, and if the funds allow, in a supplemental budget
4 in accordance with the adopted annual barangay investment
5 program. BOTH THE COMPREHENSIVE BARANGAY YOUTH
6 DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND ANNUAL BARANGAY INVESTMENT
7 PROGRAM SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO PROGRAMS, PROJECTS
8 AND ACTIVITIES THAT WILL PROMOTE AND ATTAIN THE
9 THRUSTS OF PHILIPPINE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUCH
10 AS HEALTH, EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT, GLOBAL MOBILITY,
11 ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP, GOVERNANCE, SOCIAL EQUITY AND
12 INCLUSION, PEACE-BUILDING AND SECURITY, AND
13 ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT.
14

15 (e) THE SK SHALL SET ASIDE AN AMOUNT FOR THE SK
16 MANDATORY AND CONTINUING TRAININGS. THE TOTAL
17 AMOUNT APPROPRIATED FOR TRAININGS SHALL NOT BE
18 MORE THAN 15% OF THE SK FUND.
19

20 SECTION 9. Section 21 of Republic Act 10742 is hereby further
21 amended to read as follows:
22

23 (d) DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SK PEDERASYON. THE
24 SK PEDERASYON SHALL INITIALLY DRAFT THE LOCAL YOUTH
25 DEVELOPMENT PLAN, WHICH SHALL BE FINALIZED BY THE
26 LOCAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL. THE PEDERASYON
27 SHALL CONVENE QUARTERLY WITH THE MEMBERS OF LYDC
28 TO ENSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF LYDP AND ALIGNMENT OF
29 CBYDPS AND ABYIPS TO THE LYDP. THE PEDERASYON SHALL
30 ALSO CASCADE INFORMATION AND FACILITATE
31 KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER TO THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCALITIES.
32

33 SECTION 10. Section 25 of Republic Act 10742 is hereby further
34 amended to read as follows:
35

36 Sec. 25. Creation. – There shall be in every province, city and
37 municipality a Youth Development Office which shall be headed
38 by a youth development officer with the rank of at least division
39 chief. Such may be put under the Office of the Local Chief
40 Executive, the Office of the Planning and Development, the Office
41 of the Social Welfare, or in any other office deemed appropriate
42 by the local government unit. If the funds of the local government
43 unit are sufficient, it can be a separate department with divisions
44 and units for policy and planning, administration and finance,
45 and programs and operations. In the event when the local
46 government unit has exceeded the prescribed personal services
47 limitations, the local chief executive may designate existing
48 personnel whom he or she deems fit to serve this purpose,
49 PROVIDED THAT A PERMANENT LYDO SHALL BE APPOINTED

1 WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT.
2 IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SEAL OF GOOD LOCAL
3 GOVERNANCE ACT OF 2019, FAILURE TO CREATE THE LOCAL
4 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICE AND APPOINT THE YOUTH
5 DEVELOPMENT OFFICER WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD
6 SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE LIABILITIES OF
7 THE LOCAL PERSONNEL SELECTION BOARD AND THE LOCAL
8 CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

9
10 SECTION 11. Section 26 of Republic Act 10742 is hereby further
11 amended to read as follows:

12
13 Sec. 26. Funding. – THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT SHALL
14 APPROPRIATE NOT LESS THAN 1% OF ITS ANNUAL BUDGET
15 UNDER THE LOCAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, WHICH
16 SHALL BE USED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LOCAL
17 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN, CONVENING THE MEETINGS
18 OF THE CONCERNED PEDERASYON NG MGA SANGGUNANG
19 KABATAAN AND LOCAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL; AS
20 WELL AS ITS OPERATIONS AND EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING.

21
22 Sec. 27. CAPACITY-BUILDING. THE NYC SHALL BE SPEARHEADING
23 THE CONDUCT OF CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TRAININGS FOR
24 LYDOS.

25
26 SECTION 12. National Coordination. - The National Youth Commission
27 (NYC) shall serve as the national coordinator for all city, municipal, and
28 provincial Sangguniang Kabataan federations and, in addition to those stated
29 under Republic Act No. 8044, otherwise known as the “Youth in Nation-
30 Building Act”, shall have the following powers and functions:

31
32 (a) Serve as the representative of the Sangguniang Kabataan federations
33 in coordinating with national agencies on the formulation and implementation
34 of any issuances, circulars, memorandums, and orders directly related to the
35 functions of the Sangguniang Kabataan in order to ensure the effective and
36 sound cooperation of the Sangguniang Kabataan;

37
38 (b) Evaluate the existing mandatory and continuing training programs
39 for the Sangguniang Kabataan as stated in Republic Act No. 10742 and, if
40 necessary, formulate and implement improvements in coordination with
41 concerned agencies and institutions;

42
43 (c) Settle internal disputes within the city, municipal and provincial
44 Sangguniang Kabataan federations in coordination with concerned agencies
45 and institutions; and

46
47 (d) Exercise such other powers and functions as may be necessary to
48 implement the provisions of this Act.
49

1 SECTION 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Secretary of
2 Interior and Local Government, in close coordination with the National Youth
3 Commission, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations required
4 for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.
5

6 SECTION 14. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to implement the
7 provisions of this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations
8 Act.
9

10 SECTION 15. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act
11 is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts
12 unaffected shall remain in full force and effect.
13

14 SECTION 16. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders,
15 presidential decrees or issuances, letters of instruction, administrative orders,
16 rules, and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this
17 Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.
18

19 SECTION 17. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
20 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general
21 circulation.
22

23 Approved,