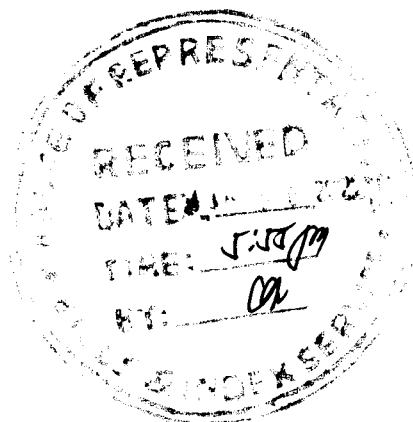


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 480



Introduced by Representative GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

AN ACT
POSTPONING THE DECEMBER 2022 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG
KABATAAN ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.
9164, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10632,
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10656, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10923, REPUBLIC ACT
NO.10952, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11462, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Local Government Units serve as a vital link between the national government and the people. In other words, "local government units are on the frontline trenches." Hence, efforts at improving the performance of Local Government Units should be of crucial concern for all of us and at this seemingly important juncture, since the crafting of the Local Government Code in 1991, the provision of basic services through the implementation of meaningful programs at the local level are inextricably linked with the stability of term of office. As enunciated in the Local Government Code of 1991, "the capabilities of local government units especially the municipalities and barangays, shall be enhanced by providing them with opportunities to participate actively in the implementation of national programs and projects. A two-year term may not be enough for our local barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials to effectively craft and implement needed reforms and projects at the local level.

A more pressing problem that besets the conduct of the December 2022 barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections is its cost. Considering that the country is still battling the pandemic, aside from other problems such as high inflation and elevated prices of goods and fuel, as a result of the continuing war between Russia and Ukraine which affects the free movement of goods, it is best to conserve our resources and simply allocate the billions of pesos to be spent on another elections this 2022 towards the pandemic response programs of the national government.

This bill is submitted with the view of postponing the December 2022 synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections to May 2024 which help our national government conserve resources in the continuing fight against the pandemic. This would also provide continuity of service on the barangay front, considering that national and local officials had just been elected a few months prior.

Considering the lofty purposes of this bill, I enjoin our colleagues to help us pass the same into law.



GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Representative, 2nd District Pampanga

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 480

Introduced by Representative GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

AN ACT

POSTPONING THE DECEMBER 2022 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10632, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10656, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10923, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10952, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11462, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of the Republic Act No. 9164, as amended the Republic Act No. 9340, Republic Act No. 10632, Republic Act No. 10656, and Republic Act 10923, and Republic Act No. 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 December 5, 2022 shall be postponed to the second Monday of May 2024. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the second Monday of May 2027 and every three (3) years thereafter."

SEC 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended the Republic Act No. 9340, Republic Act No. 10632, Republic Act No. 10656, and Republic Act 10923, and Republic Act No. 10952, 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 at noon of June 30 next following their election: *Provided*, however, That the term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected in the May 2024 elections and subsequently thereafter, shall commence at noon of June 30 next following then election."

SEC 3. *Hold-Over.* - Until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified, all incumbent barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials shall remain in office, unless sooner removed or suspended for cause: *Provided*, That barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials who are *ex officio* members of the sangguniang bayan, sangguniang panlungsod, or sangguniang panlalawigan, as the case may be, shall continue to serve as such members in the sanggunian concerned until the next barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections.

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 and/or supplementary appropriations thereafter.

SEC 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are contrary to and inconsistent with any provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC 6. *Separability Clause.* - If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SEC 7. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect immediately following the completion of its publication either in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.