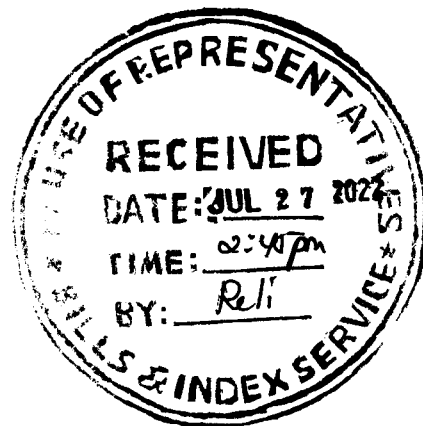


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2494



Introduced by HON. MA. THERESA V. COLLANTES

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AN ACT

**POSTPONING THE DECEMBER 5, 2022 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIAN
KABATAAN ELECTIONS TO OCTOBER 2, 2023, 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

This bill seeks to postpone the upcoming Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Election from December 5, 2022 to October 2, 2023.

COVID-19 pandemic has caused economic and social disruption worldwide. It has significantly challenged worldwide leaders especially in addressing crisis in food security, public health, people's livelihood and employment and labor issues. The Philippines as a developing country is not spared and has greatly affected by these challenges.

The barangay is the smallest political unit in country but it is considered the frontline of our government which has the direct impact to the lives of the Filipino people. The barangay officials play a pivotal role in delivering the necessary programs of our government in addressing the adverse effects of the pandemic.

Considering the uncertainty on when will COVID-19 pandemic finally end, the proposed postponement will create enough time and opportunity for the current barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials to provide assistance and support to the newly elected national and local officials in designing and implementing measures that will ensure the effective delivery of government programs directly to our people.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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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 9164, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. *Date of Elections.* - There shall be a 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 the second Monday of May 2020 shall be postponed to the 2nd day of October, 2023. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the 5th day of October, 2026 and every three (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 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 October 2, 2023 elections and subsequent thereafter, shall commence at noon of July 1 next following their elections.”

SEC. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The COMELEC shall, within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, promulgate such rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 4. Separability Clause. - If any part, section or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the rest of the provisions not be affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

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 provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take immediately following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.