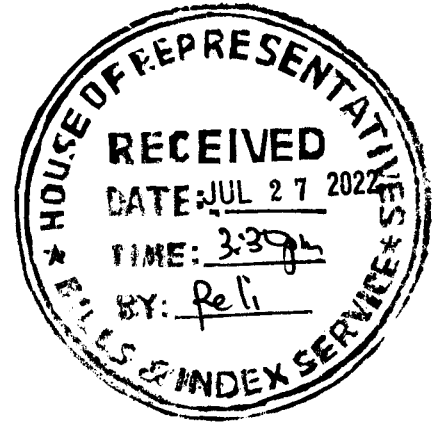


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2576



Introduced by Honorable Florida P. Robes

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to postpone the scheduled barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections from December 5, 2022 to the second Monday of May 2023.

The barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) elections were last held in May 2018. Since Republic Act No. 10952 provided that the next elections would be held in May 2020, the shortened two-year term of the victors in the Barangay and SK elections was cured with the passage of Republic Act No. 11462 which scheduled the next elections on December 5, 2022.

The Philippine electorate has recently exercised their right to suffrage during the conduct of the recent National and Local Elections last May 9, 2022 in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. As a result, we have a newly-instituted government headed by President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr., members of both Houses of Congress and officials of Local Government Units.

The Barangay being the smallest political unit in the Philippines and considered the frontliner in government’s efforts to effectively implement national programs and projects, the postponement of the Barangay and SK elections will ensure continuity in government operations at the barangay level for the time being as the new administration finds its footing.

As the scheduled barangay elections is drawing near, immediate passage of this proposal is earnestly sought.


FLORIDA P. ROBES

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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House Bill No. 2576

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**AN ACT POSTPONING THE DECEMBER 2022 SYNCHRONIZED
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.**

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

Section 1. Section 1 of REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, as amended by Republic Act No. 9340, Republic Act No. 10656, Republic Act No. 10923, Republic Act No. 10952, and Republic Act No. 11462, 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 **May 8, 2023**. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the **second Monday of May 2026** and every three (3) years thereafter."

Section 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Act No. 9340, Republic Act No. 10923, Republic Act No. 10952, and Republic Act No. 11462 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 4. Assumption of Office. - The term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected under this Act shall commence at noon on 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 8, 2023 elections and subsequently thereafter, shall commence at noon of June 30 next following their election."

Section 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.

Section 4. *Appropriations.* – Pursuant to Article VI, Section 25(5) of the 1987 Constitution, the COMELEC, acting through its Chairperson and Commissioners, is authorized to augment any item in the General Appropriations Act of 2022 for their office from the savings incurred from the implementation of this Act.

Section 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.

Section 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.

Section 34. *Effectivity* — This Act shall take effect immediately after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,