



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3324



Introduced by Representative Jefferson F. Khonghun

**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

This bill seeks to postpone the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections from December 5, 2022, to October 7, 2024. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections will be held on the first Monday of October 2027 and every three (3) years thereafter.

This legislation is grounded on the following reasons:

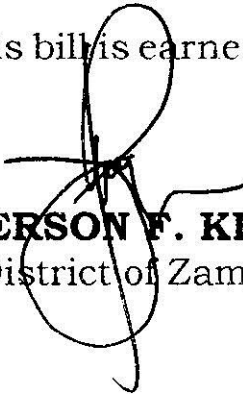
First, we are at the endgame of our battle against the dreaded COVID-19 disease. The roll-out of vaccines and booster shots, the constant prompting to our citizens, and the persistent monitoring of the minimum health and safety protocols all yielded to fruition. Such results reflect the kind of government that we presently have; that kind which has worked tirelessly in order to lead everyone towards the light at the end of the tunnel. Having witnessed this tremendous outcome, the call for consistency is therefore desired. This consistency points at our leaders in the national and local

levels, with particular mention to the barangay level. By now, our barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials have understood their roles and functions in tending towards the needs of their constituents, especially those who are and have been afflicted with the virus. Postponing the barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections would answer to this call for consistency, thus the attention remains geared towards defeating this difficulty.

In line with this, the second reason for supporting this legislation is that pushing through with the said elections this year will require a significant budget allocation from the government in order to mobilize the same. Hence, pleading for a postponement of this year's barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections will redirect the said budget into addressing the needs of our citizens, particularly that of the health sector. *Ergo*, in combating the pandemic, the necessary medical kits and equipment could be at their disposal since we will be capable enough to provide them with the same. *Salus populi est suprema lex* (the welfare of the people is the supreme law).

Finally, to be in consonance with consistency, continuity must be observed. This legislation submits that the policies, plans, and projects of our barangay officials are well under way, a good handful of which are already providing its constituents their well-deserved treatment. To conduct the upcoming elections implies a probable change in the administration; to do so might deprive the present barangay officials of their opportunity to fulfill their service to the people, and this defeats the very purpose of continuity. Newly elected barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials will surely take the time to settle in and adjust – this legislation seeks to avoid the waste of time, fund, and effort, taking into account the fact that the people have yet to clamor for change. After all, fixing what is not broken has proven to be a futile endeavor.

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



JEFFERSON F. KHONGHUN
1st District of Zambales

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PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS AMENDED BY
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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
Philippines in Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9164, as
amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“Section 1. Date of Election. There shall be
synchronized barangay and sanggunian kabataan
elections which shall be held on July 15, 2002.
Subsequent synchronized barangay and
sanggunian kabataan elections shall be held on the
last Monday of October 2007, and every three (3)
years thereafter: *Provided, That the barangay and
sanggunian kabataan elections on December 5,
2022 shall be postponed to October 7, 2024.*
Subsequent synchronized barangay and
sanggunian kabataan elections shall be held on the
first Monday of October 2027 and every three (3) years
thereafter.”

SECTION 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended,
is hereby further amended to read as follows:

1 **"Section 4. Assumption of Office.** – The term of office
2 of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials
3 elected under this Act shall commence at noon of June
4 30 next following their election: *Provided, however,*
5 That the term of office of the barangay and
6 sangguniang kabataan officials elected in the October
7 7, 2024 elections and subsequently thereafter, shall
8 commence at noon of November 4 next following their
9 election."

10
11 **SECTION 3. Hold-Over.** – Until their successors shall have
12 been duly elected and qualified, all incumbent barangay and
13 sangguniang kabataan officials shall remain in office, unless
14 sooner removed or suspended for cause: *Provided, That the*
15 barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials who are *ex officio*
16 members of the sangguniang bayan, sangguniang panlungsod, or
17 sangguniang panlalawigan, as the case may be, shall continue to
18 serve as such members in the sanggunian concerned until the next
19 barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections.

20
21 **SECTION 4. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the
22 implementation of this Act shall be taken from the appropriations
23 of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) under the General
24 Appropriations Act and/or supplementary appropriations
25 thereafter.

26
27 **SECTION 5. Repealing Clause.** – All other laws, acts,
28 presidential decrees, executive orders, issuances, presidential

1 proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are
2 contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are
3 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

4
5 **SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision
6 of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act
7 or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and
8 effect.

9
10 **SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect
11 immediately following the completion of its publication either in
12 the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

13
14 Approved,