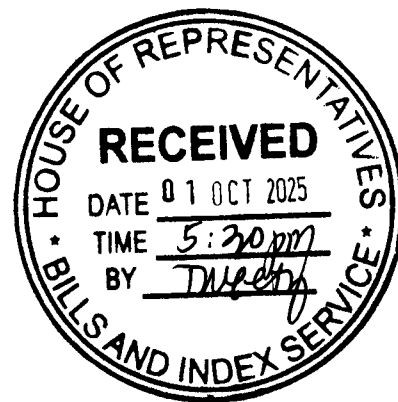




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 5066

Introduced by:
HON. KING GEORGE LEANDRO ANTONIO V. COLLANTES

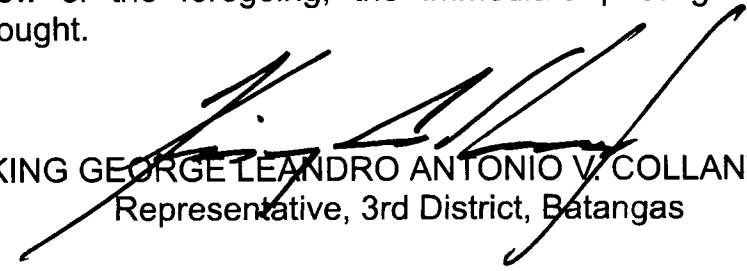
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The barangay is the basic political unit and the foundation of local governance in the Philippines. It is the primary planning and implementing unit of government programs and projects, and the forum where the collective views of the people are expressed and considered. Despite this crucial role, barangays remain the most under-resourced level of government.

Barangay officials are burdened with numerous responsibilities that directly affect the day-to-day lives of citizens, yet they continue to face inadequate financial support, limited facilities, and insufficient benefits. This measure, the *Magna Carta for Barangays*, seeks to address these long-standing gaps by granting barangay officials the dignity, support, and resources necessary to perform their duties, while ensuring that every barangay has access to basic services and enjoys greater fiscal autonomy.

The passage of this bill will strengthen barangays as the backbone of governance and empower them to deliver responsive, efficient, and sustainable services to their constituents.

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


KING GEORGE LEANDRO ANTONIO V. COLLANTES
Representative, 3rd District, Batangas



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5066

Introduced by: HON. KING GEORGE LEANDRO ANTONIO V. COLLANTES

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAYS

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

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. Short Title. — This Act shall be known as the “*Magna Carta for Barangays*.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote, develop, and improve the general welfare of barangay residents; uplift the economic and social status of barangay officials; grant every barangay access to basic facilities necessary for decent, healthy, and comfortable living; and provide measures that will ensure the local autonomy of barangays as the primary planning and implementing unit of government programs, projects, and activities, as well as the forum through which the collective views of the community may be crystallized and expressed.

SEC. 3. General Principles. — The following shall serve as guiding principles of this Act:

(a) The national government shall give primary attention to the development of barangays, as they are the foundation of the nation's economy;

(b) Every barangay shall be granted the authority and capacity to address its problems at the local level;

(c) Self-help, volunteerism, and people's participation shall be the guiding principles in all barangay development projects.

II. COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS

SEC. 4. Barangay Officials as Regular Government Employees.

— The Punong Barangay, Sangguniang Barangay Members, Barangay Secretary, and Barangay Treasurer are hereby declared regular government employees, and as such, shall be entitled to fixed salaries, allowances, insurance, medical and dental coverage, retirement benefits, and such other fringe benefits to which regular government employees are entitled.

SEC. 5. Salaries of Barangay Officials. — Within six (6) months from the approval of this Act, and upon the passage of the corresponding appropriation ordinances, all barangay officials mentioned in Section 4 shall be entitled to the following salaries:

1. **Punong Barangay** — An amount equivalent to the salary of a Sangguniang Bayan Member of the municipality or city.
2. **Members of the Sangguniang Barangay** — An amount equivalent to eighty percent (80%) of the salary of a Sangguniang Bayan Member of the municipality or city.
3. **Barangay Secretary and Barangay Treasurer** — An amount equivalent to seventy-five percent (75%) of the salary of a Sangguniang Bayan Member of the municipality or city.

III. BASIC PRIORITIES IN THE BARANGAY

SEC. 6. Drinking Water. — Every barangay shall have the right to a regular supply of clean and potable drinking water. For this purpose, every city or municipality shall ensure the construction and/or maintenance of at least one (1) deep well with a pumping device for every one thousand (1,000) residents of each barangay within its jurisdiction.

SEC. 7. Transportation. — Every barangay shall have access to public transportation at least once daily. To this end, cities and municipalities shall coordinate with appropriate government agencies to require public utility companies operating within their jurisdictions to provide the minimum means of public transportation in every barangay.

SEC. 8. Schools, Health Centers, and Barangay Halls. — Every barangay shall be entitled to at least one (1) elementary school: *Provided*, That there shall be at least one (1) high school for every five (5) kilometers from the barangay center. Each barangay shall likewise be entitled to at least one (1) health center and one (1) barangay hall.

IV. MEASURES TO ASSURE LOCAL AUTONOMY

SEC. 9. Automatic Release of Share from National Taxes. — The National Treasury shall automatically remit to the barangays their just share from national taxes at the end of every calendar year.

SEC. 10. Transfer of Funds for Barangay Infrastructure. — All public funds appropriated from the National Treasury for the maintenance of barangay roads, bridges, and other similar infrastructure shall be directly transferred to the general fund of the concerned barangay, subject to existing auditing laws, rules, and regulations.

SEC. 11. Mandatory Share in Taxes, Fees, and Charges. — Twenty-five percent (25%) of all real property taxes collected on properties located within the barangay shall accrue to the barangay fund, to be allocated in accordance with existing laws. In addition, each barangay shall be entitled to ten percent (10%) of all other taxes, fees, penalties, compromises, or charges collected from persons residing in the barangay, or from entities whose offices or facilities are located therein.

SEC. 12. Equitable Share from the Utilization of Natural Resources. — Every barangay shall be entitled to an equitable share from the proceeds of the utilization and development of natural resources within its jurisdiction. The amount of the share shall be determined by the city or municipality concerned, in consultation with concessionaires, city or municipal officials, and barangay officials, taking into account the extent of environmental impact on the barangay. Such equitable sharing shall be determined within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act. Revenues derived from this source shall accrue to the general fund of the barangay.

V. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

SEC. 13. Scholarship Grants. — Every barangay shall sponsor at least one (1) scholarship grant annually leading to any bachelor's degree, to be awarded through a competitive examination open to bona fide residents of the barangay. The grant shall cover tuition and other school fees, allowances for books, supplies, transportation, and such other expenses as may be deemed necessary by the Sangguniang Barangay.

SEC. 14. Priority in Employment. — Residents of every barangay shall be given priority in the hiring of workers for any government construction or development project undertaken within their jurisdiction.

SEC. 15. Cooperative Enterprises. — Barangays shall promote and assist in the establishment of cooperative enterprises as a means of fostering economic self-reliance, mutual aid, and sustainable development within the community.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

SEC. 16. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — The Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Budget and

Management (DBM), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act. Such rules and regulations shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

SEC. 17. Budgetary Estimates. — The Secretaries of the DILG and DBM shall submit to Congress the necessary budgetary estimates to implement the provisions of this Act, particularly those concerning salaries, allowances, benefits, and barangay development priorities.

SEC. 18. Penal Provision. — Any person who willfully interferes with, restrains, or coerces any barangay official or resident in the exercise of rights granted under this Act, or who otherwise seeks to defeat its provisions, shall, upon conviction, be punished with a fine of not less than Five Hundred Pesos (₱500.00) nor more than Two Thousand Pesos (₱2,000.00), or imprisonment of up to six (6) months, or both, at the discretion of the court. If the offender is a public official, the penalty shall include dismissal from public service.

SEC. 19. Separability Clause. — If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining portions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 20. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 21. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,