

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **7195**



Introduced by Representative Reynante U. Arrogancia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks the amendment to the provision in the Local Government Code of 1991 that states that the barangay is responsible for the maintenance of barangay roads, bridges and water systems.

The 2024 data of the Local Roads and Bridges Inventory of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shows that Barangay Roads nationwide has a total length 103,728.13 kilometers with 41,107.78 kilometers categorized as *poor to bad* and 68,737.50 kilometers remain *unpaved*.¹ These data reveal a need to reassess and propose a policy change to address the limitations that barangays face in maintaining barangay roads throughout the country. Barangay roads are often neglected and poorly maintained because of the financial and technical constraints of the barangays. Barangay roads are one of the underpinning foundations of rural development to economic development and for the easier movement of goods, reducing transportation costs, and enhancing access to essential services.

It is a common experience that barangay councils request funding support for the construction or maintenance of barangay roads in their jurisdictions, especially those roads that were damaged because of natural disasters. They commonly cite their lack of financial capacity to address the issues of the barangay roads. With the limited resources of the barangay, especially those with a limited share of the National Tax Allotment, this bill seeks for the amendment of the provision of the Local Government Code for the maintenance of these barangay roads to be reverted to the national government.

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

REYNANTE U. ARROGANCIA
3RD District of Quezon

¹ <https://lrbi.dilg.gov.ph/>

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AN ACT
AMENDING CHAPTER 2 SECTION 17 (B), PARAGRAPH 1 (V) OF REPUBLIC
ACT 7160, ALSO KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991,
ON THE OBLIGATION OF THE BARANGAY TO MAINTAIN BARANGAY
ROADS, BRIDGES AND WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

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

SECTION 1. Section 17 (b), Paragraph 1 (v) of Republic Act No. 7610, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 17. *Basic Services and Facilities.* - (a) Local government units shall endeavor to be self-reliant and shall continue exercising the powers and discharging the duties and functions currently vested upon them. They shall also discharge the functions and responsibilities of national agencies and offices devolved to them pursuant to this Code. Local government units shall likewise exercise such other powers and discharge such other functions and responsibilities as are necessary, appropriate, or incidental to efficient and effective provision of the basic services and facilities enumerated herein.

(b) Such basic services and facilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) *For a Barangay:*

- (i) xxx;
- (ii) xxx;
- (iii) xxx;
- (iv) xxx;
- (v) Maintenance of barangay [roads and] bridges and water supply systems;
- (vi) xxx;”

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,