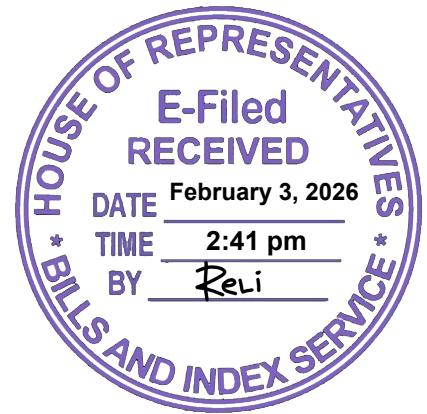


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **7579**



Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

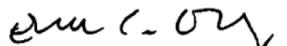
The barangay is the basic political unit of government and the primary channel for the delivery of basic services at the community level. However, Republic Act No. 7160, or the Local Government Code of 1991, prescribes only the minimum population requirement for the creation of a barangay and does not set a maximum population limit, particularly in urban areas.

As urban populations continue to grow, many barangays, especially in highly urbanized cities and metropolitan areas now serve excessively large numbers of inhabitants. This has strained barangay resources and hindered the timely delivery of essential services, most notably during emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic, when barangays were expected to act as first responders.

This bill seeks to amend Section 386 of the Local Government Code by establishing a maximum population limit of fifteen thousand (15,000) inhabitants for barangays in urban areas, as certified by the Philippine Statistics Authority, and by providing for the reapportionment of existing barangays that exceed this limit, subject to existing legal requirements.

By rationalizing barangay population sizes, this measure aims to improve local governance, strengthen disaster response, and ensure faster and more efficient delivery of basic services to the people.

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


ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

Republic of the Philippines
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House Bill No. **7579**

Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 386 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OR THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

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

SECTION 1. Section 386 of Republic Act No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 386. *Requisites for Creation.* –

(a) A barangay may be created out of a contiguous territory which has a population of at least two thousand (2,000) inhabitants as certified by the [National Statistics Office] **PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY** except in cities and municipalities within Metro Manila and other metropolitan political subdivisions or in highly urbanized cities where such territory shall have a certified population of at least five thousand (5,000) **BUT NOT MORE THAN FIFTEEN THOUSAND (15,000)** inhabitants [:]. **ALL EXISTING BARANGAYS IN CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN METRO MANILA AND OTHER METROPOLITAN POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OR IN HIGHLY URBANIZED CITIES WITH A POPULATION OF MORE THAN FIFTEEN THOUSAND (15,000) INHABITANTS SHALL BE REAPPORTIONED IN ORDER TO CREATE ADDITIONAL BARANGAYS:** Provided, That the creation thereof shall not reduce the population of the original barangay or barangays to less than the minimum requirement prescribed herein.

To enhance the delivery of basic services in the indigenous cultural communities, barangays may be created in such communities by an Act of Congress, notwithstanding the above requirement.

(b) XXX

(c) XXX

XXX”

SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, orders, issuances, circulars, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SEC. 3. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,