



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **10714**



Introduced by Representatives **MARCELINO C. LIBANAN** and
CHRISTOPHER SHEEN P. GONZALES

AN ACT
FIXING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF BARANGAY AND
SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN OFFICIALS TO FIVE (5) YEARS
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12232 OR “AN
ACT SETTING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE BARANGAY
OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The barangay, as the basic political unit of the Philippines, plays a vital role in delivering essential government services, implementing community development programs, and ensuring effective grassroots governance. As frontline public servants, barangay officials require sufficient time to fully implement their programs and address the evolving needs of their constituents.

The existing four-year (4) term of office of barangay officials may not always provide adequate time to complete long-term projects and sustain development initiatives. Extending the term of office of barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials to five (5) years will provide greater continuity, stability, and effectiveness in local governance while maintaining democratic accountability through regular elections.

To facilitate an orderly transition to a five-year electoral cycle, this measure seeks to postpone the 2026 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections to November 2028 as a one-time transitional measure. This will allow the electoral calendar to be aligned with the proposed five-year term of office and ensure

uninterrupted delivery of public services through a holdover arrangement for incumbent officials until their successors are elected and qualified.

Recognizing the need to balance continuity of leadership with accountability and leadership renewal, this measure likewise provides for nationwide consultations among barangay officials, local government units, government agencies, and other stakeholders to establish an appropriate framework on term limitations for elective barangay officials.

Through this reform, the State strengthens grassroots governance by empowering barangay leaders with sufficient time to pursue sustainable community development while preserving the democratic principles of accountability, participation, and responsive leadership.



MARCELINO C. LIBANAN
Representative
4Ps Partylist



CHRISTOPHER SHEEN P. GONZALES
Representative
Lone District, Eastern Samar



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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "**Barangay Governance Reform Act of 2026.**"

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to strengthen grassroots governance by providing barangay officials with sufficient time to effectively implement development programs, ensure continuity in the delivery of basic services, and promote long-term community development, while preserving democratic accountability through periodic elections.

To achieve an orderly transition to a five-year electoral cycle, the 2026 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections shall be postponed as a **one-time transitional measure**.

SEC. 3. Amendment of Section 3 of Republic Act No. 12232. - Section 3 of Republic Act No. 12232 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 3. Term of Office. – The term of office of all elected barangay officials shall be **five (5) years**, commencing at noon of the first day of December following their election.

The term of office of Sangguniang Kabataan officials shall likewise be five (5) years, subject to the qualifications and limitations provided under Republic Act No. 10742, as amended.

Congress shall, after conducting nationwide consultations with barangay officials and other stakeholders, enact the appropriate provisions governing the maximum number of consecutive terms that may be served by elective barangay officials, taking into consideration the principles of continuity in governance, democratic accountability, and leadership renewal."

SEC. 4. One-Time Postponement of the 2026 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections. - Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections scheduled for the first Monday of November 2026 are hereby postponed to the **first Monday of November 2028**.

The incumbent barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials shall continue to serve in a holdover capacity until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified.

SEC. 5. Subsequent Elections. - Beginning in 2028, Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections shall be held every **five (5) years** on the first Monday of November.

SEC. 6. Nationwide Consultation. - Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, the House Committee on Local Government and the Senate Committee on Local Government shall jointly conduct nationwide public consultations with barangay officials, local government units, the Liga ng mga Barangay, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Commission on Elections, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders for the purpose of determining the appropriate term-limit framework for elective barangay officials.

The recommendations arising from such consultations shall serve as the basis for subsequent legislation prescribing the maximum number of consecutive terms for elective barangay officials.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,