



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10924



Introduced by **Representatives BENITEZ, JAVIER MIGUEL LOPEZ; AGARAO, BENJAMIN C. JR.; AGYAO, CAROLINE B., M.D.; ALANO, USTADZ YUSOP, T.; ALBANO, ANTONIO "TONYPET" T.; AMANTE, LORETO S.; ANGELES, MARIA CRISTINA C.; CHAN, JUNARD "AHONG" Q.; CHUA-TAI, KATRINA REIKO; CRUZ, AGATHA PAULA A.; DIMAGUILA, WALFREDO "ARMAN" R. JR.; DIMAPORO, IMELDA QUIBRANZA; GARCIA, ALBERT S.; GARCIA, MARIA ANGELA S.; GO, ED CHRISTOPHER S.; GOMEZ, RICHARD I., DPA; GONZALES, ROY M.; HERNANDEZ, CHARISSE ANNE C.; HERNANDEZ, RAMIL LAUREL; LAZATIN, CARMELO G. JR.; LUMAYAG, ISIDRO D.; MANGUDADATU, ESMAEL G.; MATIBAG, ANN; MATUGAS, FRANCISCO "LALO" T.; MERCADO, ROGER G.; NOLASCO, RAMON C.; ONGCHUAN, EDWIN; PIMENTEL, ALEXANDER TY; SALVADOR, MARIO "KOKOY" O.; TARRIELA, LEODY "ODIE" F.; UY, ROBERTO "PINPIN" JR. T.; VARGAS-ALFONSO, BABY ALINE; VARGAS, PATRICK MICHAEL D.; VERGARA, JULIUS CESAR "JAY" V.; VILLA, ZALDY S.; VIOLAGO, MARK CHOLO I.**

AN ACT

FIXING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN TO FIVE (5) YEARS, AMENDING 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 Constitution does not prescribe a fixed term of office for barangay officials. Congress therefore possesses the authority—and the corresponding responsibility—to establish a term that promotes democratic accountability while allowing barangay officials sufficient time to govern effectively.

Republic Act No. 12232 presently fixes the term of elected barangay and

Sangguniang Kabataan officials at four (4) years. This measure proposes to increase the term to five (5) years in order to provide greater stability, continuity, and effectiveness in barangay governance.

The barangay is the government institution closest to the people. It is the primary point of contact for residents seeking basic services, public assistance, dispute resolution, disaster response, peace-and-order intervention, and access to government programs. Under the Local Government Code, the barangay serves as the basic political unit and the principal planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities within the community.

Despite the breadth of these responsibilities, barangay officials are often required to perform their duties within a governing period significantly shortened by administrative transition and electoral preparation.

The initial year of a term is commonly devoted to organizing the new administration, constituting committees, preparing or updating development and investment plans, familiarizing officials with budgeting, accounting, procurement, and audit requirements, and coordinating proposed programs with municipal, city, provincial, and national government agencies. Projects involving infrastructure, livelihood, health, sanitation, disaster preparedness, peace and order, and social welfare may require several stages of planning, funding, procurement, implementation, and evaluation.

Before these programs can fully mature, officials may already be compelled to prepare for the next election. Political organizations must be maintained, consultations intensified, campaign resources assembled, and electoral challenges addressed. Consequently, the actual period during which barangay officials can devote their full attention to governance may be considerably shorter than their nominal term.

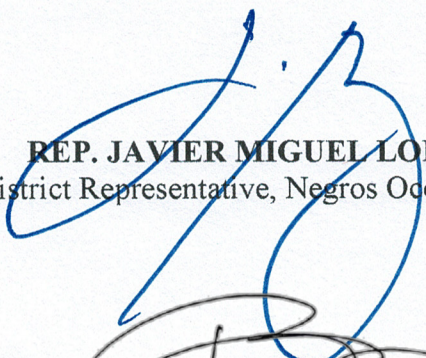
This frequent return to electoral activity can encourage short-term and highly visible projects at the expense of programs whose benefits require sustained implementation. Essential but less immediately visible initiatives—such as drainage maintenance, disaster-risk mapping, nutrition programs, community-based peace-and-order systems, digitization of records, financial controls, and long-term development planning—may be neglected because their results do not always coincide with the electoral calendar.

A five-year term would provide barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials with a more practical governing cycle. It would allow sufficient time for institutional organization and comprehensive planning, followed by sustained implementation, project completion, evaluation, accountability, and an orderly transition. More importantly, the

proposed term would allow barangay officials to focus on governing instead of remaining in an almost continuous state of electoral preparation.

The measure does not grant indefinite tenure or remove existing safeguards. Barangay officials shall remain subject to the limitation of three consecutive terms in the same position, while Sangguniang Kabataan officials shall remain limited to one term in the same position. Barangay officials should be given sufficient time not merely to assume office, organize their administrations, and prepare for another election, but to govern: to identify community problems, formulate responsive programs, implement solutions, complete projects, and be judged by the people on the basis of actual performance.

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



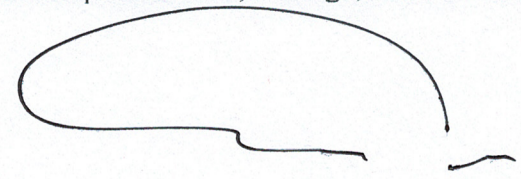
REP. JAVIER MIGUEL LOPEZ BENITEZ
District Representative, Negros Occidental, 3rd District



REP. BENJAMIN C. AGARAO, JR.
District Representative, Laguna, 4th District



REP. CAROLINE B. AGYAO, M.D.
District Representative, Kalinga, Lone District



REP. USTADZ YUSOP T. ALANO
District Representative, Basilan, Lone District



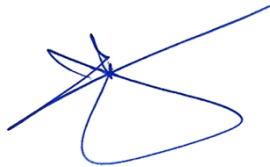
REP. ANTONIO "TONYTUT" T. ALBANO
District Representative, Isabela, 1st District



REP. LORETO S. AMANTE
District Representative, Laguna, 3rd District



REP. MARIA CRISTINA C. ANGELES
District Representative, Tarlac, 2nd District



REP. JUNARD "AHONG" Q. CHAN
District Representative, Lapu-Lapu City, Lone District



REP. KATRINA REIKO CHUA-TAI
District Representative, Zamboanga City, 1st District



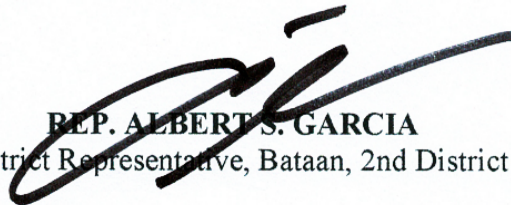
REP. AGATHA PAULA A. CRUZ
District Representative, Bulacan, 5th District



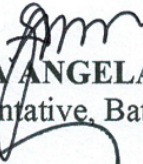
REP. WALFREDO "ARMAN" R. DIMAGUILA, JR.
District Representative, Biñan City, Lone District



REP. IMELDA QUIBRANZA DIMAPORO
District Representative, Lanao del Norte, 1st District



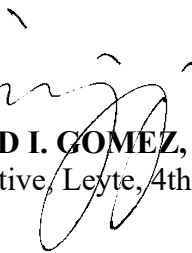
REP. ALBERT S. GARCIA
District Representative, Bataan, 2nd District



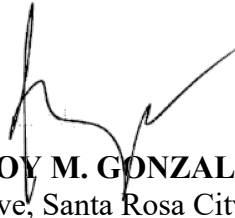
REP. MARIA ANGELA S. GARCIA
District Representative, Bataan, 3rd District



REP. ED CHRISTOPHER S. GO
District Representative, Isabela, 2nd District

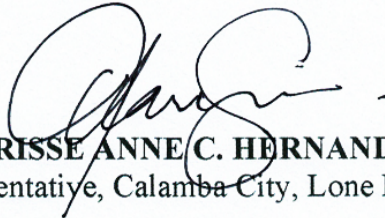


REP. RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA
District Representative, Leyte, 4th District



REP. ROY M. GONZALES

District Representative, Santa Rosa City, Lone District



REP. CHARISSE ANNE C. HERNANDEZ

District Representative, Calamba City, Lone District



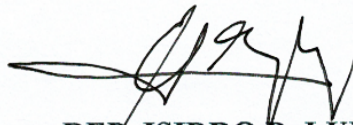
REP. RAMIL LAUREL HERNANDEZ

District Representative, Laguna, 2nd District



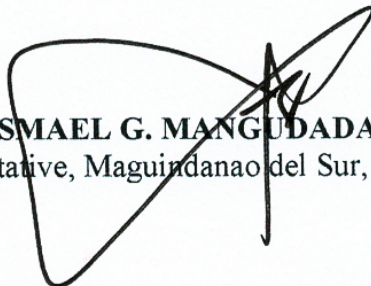
REP. CARMELO G. LAZATIN, JR.

District Representative, Pampanga, 1st District



REP. ISIDRO D. LUMAYAG

District Representative, South Cotabato, 1st District



REP. ESMAEL G. MANGUDADATU

District Representative, Maguindanao del Sur, Lone District



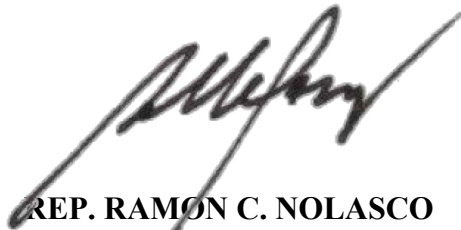
REP. ANN MATIBAG
District Representative, Laguna, 1st District



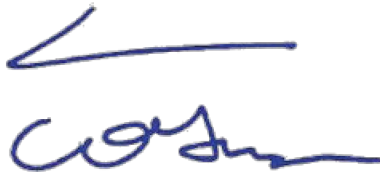
REP. FRANCISCO "LALO" T. MATUGAS
District Representative, Surigao del Norte, 1st District



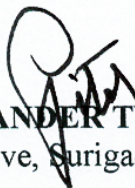
REP. ROGER G. MERCADO
District Representative, Southern Leyte, 1st District



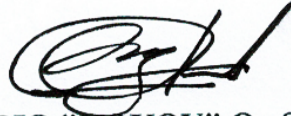
REP. RAMON C. NOLASCO
District Representative, Cagayan, 1st District



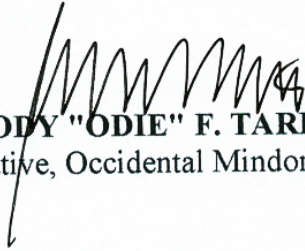
REP. EDWIN ONGCHUAN
District Representative, Northern Samar, 2nd District



REP. ALEXANDER TY PIMENTEL
District Representative, Surigao del Sur, 2nd District



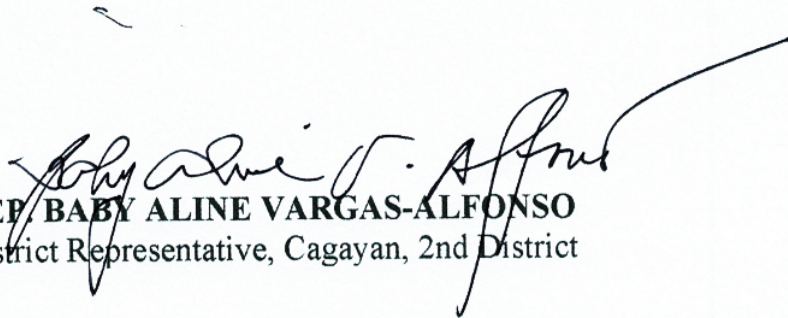
REP. MARIO "KOKOY" O. SALVADOR
District Representative, Nueva Ecija, 2nd District



REP. LEODY "ODIE" F. TARRIELA
District Representative, Occidental Mindoro, Lone District



REP. ROBERTO "PINPIN" JR. T. UY
District Representative, Zamboanga del Norte, 1st District



REP. BABY ALINE VARGAS-ALFONSO
District Representative, Cagayan, 2nd District



REP. PATRICK MICHAEL D. VARGAS
District Representative, Quezon City, 5th District



A blue ink signature of Julius Cesar 'Jay' V. Vergara is written above his name.

REP. JULIUS CESAR "JAY" V. VERGARA
District Representative, Nueva Ecija, 3rd District

A black ink signature of Zaldy S. Villa is written above his name.

REP. ZALDY S. VILLA
District Representative, Siquijor, Lone District

A black ink signature of Mark Cholo L. Violago is written above his name.

REP. MARK CHOLO L. VIOLAGO
District Representative, Bulacan, 3rd District

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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. 12232 or “An Act Setting the Term of Office of Barangay Officials and Members of the Sangguniang Kabataan, and for Other Purposes” is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. Term of Office. – The term of office of all elected barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials shall be ~~four (4)~~ **FIVE (5)** years. No elective barangay official shall serve for more than ~~three (3)~~ **TWO (2)** consecutive terms in the same position. No elective Sangguniang Kabataan

official shall serve for more than one (1) term in the same positions. Voluntary renunciation of office for any length of time shall not be considered as an interruption in the continuity of service for the full term for which the elective official was elected.”

Sec. 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 12232 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 2. Date of Election. – The next regular barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections shall be held on the first Monday of November ~~{2026}~~ **2028** and every ~~{four (4)}~~ **FIVE (5)** years thereafter.”

Sec. 3. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 12232 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 5. Transitory Provision. – Incumbent elective barangay officials **SHALL BE REGARDED AS HAVING COMPLETED ONE TERM IN THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS, CONSIDERING THE EXTENSION OF THEIR TERMS BY TWO (2) YEARS. INCUMBENT OFFICIALS** serving their third consecutive term in the same position shall ~~{not be eligible}~~ **BE INELIGIBLE** to run for the same position in the November ~~[2026]~~ **2028** Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections.”

Sec. 4. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,