

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session**

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SENATE
Senate Bill No. 1741 RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

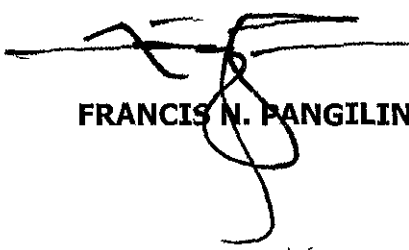
The last barangay elections in 2002 drained the financial resources of the government by as much as one billion pesos.

The recent national elections is a little more than a year after the above-stated exercise. Barely a year after, Republic Act No. 9164 was enacted stating that there barangay elections will be conducted on the last Monday of October next year and every three years thereafter- as such, this country is holding elections almost every year to the detriment of other developmental efforts of the government. Funds which could be allocated for, and in fact are urgently needed by, other important agencies and projects are being allocated for local barangay elections.

Moreover, contrary to the intent to depoliticize polls in the barangay, Republic Act No. 9164 shortened the terms of office of barangay officials from five years to three years. The new term of office is too short for the said officials to initiate political reconciliation within their own territories. Election is a healthy democratic exercise; however, it must be within a reasonable interval in order to allow the nation to recover from its inevitable divisive effect and economic drawback.

In this light, this proposal seeks to amend Sections 1 and 2 of Republic Act No. 9164 by resetting the barangay elections from the last Monday of October 2005 to the last Monday of October 2006 thereby extending the terms of office of the incumbent barangay officials until the last Monday of October in 2006. Thereon, the said barangay exercise shall be once every five (5) years.

Approval of this proposal is earnestly sought.


FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN

SENATE
Senate Bill No. 1741

Introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTIONS 1 AND 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 9164 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SYNCHRONIZED BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS," AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1994

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

Section 1. Date of Election. – There shall be synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections which shall be held July 15, 2003. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan election shall be held on the last Monday of October 2006 and every [three (3)] **FIVE (5)** years thereafter.

Section 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9164 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC 2. Term of Office. – the term of office of all barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials after the effectivity of this Act shall be [three (3) years] **FIVE (5)** years.

No barangay elective official shall serve for more than three (3) consecutive terms in the same position. [Provided, however, that the term of office shall be reckoned from the 1994 elections.] Voluntary renunciation of office for any length of time shall be considered as an interruption in the continuity of service for the full term for which the elective official was elected.

Section 3. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 4. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, other sections or provisions not affected thereof shall remain in force and effect.

Section 5. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,