

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

SECRETARY

SENATE  
S. No. 2283

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution in Article 2, Section 13 provides that:


Section 13. The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.

The *Sangguniang Kabataan* is the voice of the youth in the *barangay* policy making level. Unfortunately, the present activities of the *Sangguniang Kabataan (SK)* are focused only on the physical development. The moral and spiritual well being of the youth are neglected.

According to the Catholic Bishop Conference of the Philippines' Statement on Juvenile Delinquency, the lack of programs for spiritual development for the youth is one of the causes of juvenile delinquency. The CBCP also pointed out that spiritual development should begin inside the family.

However, since some families do not even try to educate their children morally and spiritually, it is incumbent upon the government to institute reforms. This bill therefore seeks to provide means for the promotion of the moral and spiritual well being of our youth in addition to the projects currently being undertaken by various *Sangguniang Kabataan* pertaining to the physical development of the youth. This bill likewise intends to broaden the scope of the membership in the *Katipunan ng Kabataan* by lowering the minimum age of membership to twelve (12). In this way, a much larger number can benefit from the projects of the *Sangguniang Kabataan*.

This is a revised version of SBN 1742 filed by former Senator Juan M. Flavio in the Thirteenth Congress.

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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RECEIVED BY:       

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AN ACT  
TO PROMOTE THE SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL AND MORAL WELL  
BEING FOR THE FILIPINO YOUTH, AMENDING SECTIONS 329, 389 AND  
426 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE

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

SECTION 1. Section 329 of the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 329. Barangay Funds. -- Unless otherwise provided in this Title, all income of the *barangay* from whatever source shall accrue to its general fund and shall, at option of the *barangay* concerned, be kept as trust fund in the custody of the city or municipal treasurer or be deposited in a bank, preferably government owned, situated in or nearest to its area of jurisdiction. Such funds shall be disbursed in accordance with the provision of this Title. FIFTEEN (15%) (ten (10%)) percent of the general fund of the *barangay* shall be set aside for the *sangguniang kabataan*.

SECTION 2. Section 389 (11) of the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby amended as follows:

(11) Exercise general supervision over the activities of the *sangguniang kabataan*, THE THREE (3) COMMITTEES CREATED UNDER SECTION 426 (D), AND THE SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL, AND MORAL (SPAM) YOUTH MOVEMENT;

SECTION 3. Section 426 (D) of the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(D) CREATE THREE COMMITTEES HEADED BY SK MEMBERS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL AND MORAL WELL BEING OF THE

1 YOUTH, AND SUCH OTHER BODIES OR COMMITTEES AS IT MAY DEEM  
2 NECESSARY TO EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT ITS PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES;

3 SECTION 4. Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, membership to the *Katipunan ng*  
4 *Kabataan* shall be reduced from fifteen (15) years old to twelve (12) years old.

5 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is held invalid,  
6 the remainder of this Act shall not be affected thereby.

7 SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive order or rules and  
8 regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

9 SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
10 publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

11 Approved.