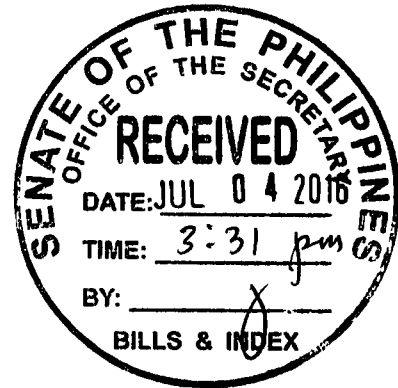


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



SENATE

SENATE BILL No. 371

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Introduced by **SENATOR LEILA M. DE LIMA**

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**AN ACT**  
**EXTENDING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF ELECTIVE BARANGAY**  
**OFFICIALS TO FIVE YEARS WITH MAXIMUM OF TWO CONSECUTIVE**  
**TERMS, AND POSTPONING THE OCTOBER 2016 SYNCHRONIZED**  
**BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS, AND FOR**  
**OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As the basic political unit in the country, the barangay serves as the front liner in delivering the basic and important services to the people. It offers direct and most immediate assistance and support to the community.

The barangay officials, including the Sangguniang Kabataan, therefore, play a crucial role in providing effective and accountable local governance. They are the effective partners of the national government in maintaining law and order, and in accelerating economic development throughout the country.

With this Herculean task, the present term of office for barangay elective officials may be too short for them to fully implement and realize their notable program of peace and development in their localities.

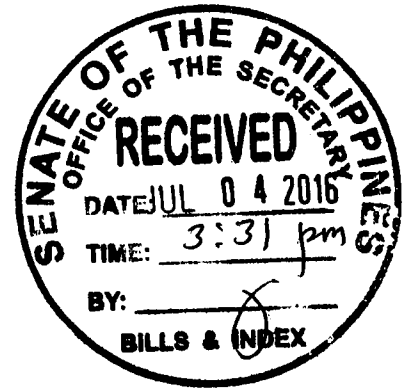
Hence, in order to promote continuity of service at the barangay level, and to insulate the elective officials from the vagaries of partisan politics, this bill seeks to extend the term of office for elective barangay officials from three (3) years to five (5) years with a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms, and to postpone the conduct of their elections from October 2016 to October 2018.

Given that the Commission on Elections is still reeling from the daunting task of accomplishing the requirements of the recently concluded national and local elections, the hiatus will likewise provide the poll agency sufficient time to prepare for the nationwide conduct of the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan synchronized elections.

Early approval of this measure is therefore earnestly requested.

*Leila de Lima*  
LEILA M. DE LIMA

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
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**OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 Section 1. *Term of Office of Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials.* The  
2 term of office of all Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials after the effectivity  
3 of this Act shall be five (5) years.

4

5 No Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elective official shall serve for more than  
6 two (2) consecutive terms for the same position: Provided, that the term of office of  
7 barangay officials elected in the October 2013 barangay elections and whose term  
8 shall be extended pursuant to this Act, shall be eligible only for a second consecutive  
9 term.

10

1 Voluntary renunciation of office for any length of time shall not be considered as an  
2 interruption in the continuity of service for the full term for which the elective official  
3 was elected.

4  
5 *Sec. 2. Postponement of the Synchronized Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan*  
6 *October 2016 Elections, and the Setting the Date of the Elections.* The synchronized  
7 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections scheduled to be held on the last  
8 Monday of October 2016 is hereby postponed and reset to the last Monday of  
9 October 2018, and every five (5) years thereafter.

10

11 *Sec. 3. Assumption of Office.* The term of office of the Barangay and Sangguniang  
12 Kabataan officials elected in the October 2018 elections and subsequent elections  
13 shall commence at noon of November 30 next following their elections.

14

15 *Sec. 4. Hold Over for Incumbent Barangay Officials.* All incumbent Barangay  
16 officials elected in the October 2013 Barangay elections shall remain in office unless  
17 sooner removed or suspended for cause until their successors shall have been elected  
18 and qualified *Provided, however,* That barangay officials who are *ex officio* members  
19 of the sangguniang bayan, sangguniang panlungsod or sangguniang panlalawigan as  
20 the case may be shall continue to serve as such members in the sanggunian  
21 concerned until the next barangay election. The Liga ng mga Barangay at the  
22 municipal, city, and provincial levels shall, within thirty (30) days after the next  
23 barangay election, conduct elections for *ex officio* positions in the sanggunians under  
24 the supervision of the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

25

1 Sec. 5. *Appropriations.* The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act  
2 shall be taken from the appropriations of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC)  
3 under the General Appropriations Act and/or supplementary appropriations  
4 thereafter.

5  
6 Sec. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The COMELEC shall, within thirty  
7 (30) days after the effectivity of this Act, promulgate such rules and regulations  
8 necessary to implement this Act.

9  
10 Sec. 7. *Repealing Clause.* - Section 43 of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the  
11 Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, Section 2 of Republic Act 9164, and  
12 Sections 1, 4 and 5 of Republic Act 9164, as amended by Republic Act 9340, and  
13 Section 11 (a) and Section 32 of RA 10742, otherwise known as the Sangguniang  
14 Kabataan Reforms Act of 2015, and all laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules and  
15 regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby  
16 repealed or modified accordingly.

17  
18 Sec. 8. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act  
19 is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not  
20 be affected and thereby remain in full force and effect.

21  
22 Sec. 9. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
23 complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

24  
25 Approved,