

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Third Regular Session

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SENATE
S.B. No. 2802

RECEIVED



INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO

AN ACT
SETTING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG
KABATAAN OFFICIALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Local Government Units have always been a quintessential component in implementing crucial plans, projects, services, and policies to ensure that the common good is always upheld. As the most basic political unit in the local government, the Barangay is often tasked with seeing these implementations through. Being a Barangay official is no easy feat as they are often daunted by the numerous responsibilities and duties that they are mandated with.

Another key role of the Barangay that is often overlooked under Section 384 of the Local Government Code is their duty to create a forum wherein the collective views of the people may be expressed, crystallized, and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled. Consequently, an ideal relationship between the Barangay and its constituents must be based on trust, respect, understanding, and cooperation to enhance their ability to solve widespread issues.

Article X of the 1987 Constitution sheds light on supporting more inclusive local governance and development, in which it becomes evident that the terms of office of Barangay officials shall be determined by law. However, the current structure of three (3) years per term for each Barangay official is insufficient and inadequate for them to fulfill and discharge the obligations entrusted to them. With the projects of both

the national and local governments, Barangay officials are unable to directly address the needs of their constituents by creating and enforcing their own policies, projects, and service activities.

It is the spirit of this bill to propose the extension of the term of Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) officials to six (6) years per term, which becomes necessary in ensuring that they have sufficient resources to identify, develop, and implement local projects and provide necessary services to their constituents. In effect, Barangay officials can meticulously and swiftly ensure that programs and projects can be completed, resulting in effective, sustainable, and reliable public service.

In addition, extending the term of Barangay and SK officials to six (6) years will also result in significant savings for the National Government. The COMELEC required a budget of P18 billion for the Barangay elections held in 2023. This is a trend that will continue to increase as election materials, manpower, and new technologies for Barangay elections become more expensive. These savings could be better spent on other projects, sectors, and services that will have a genuine impact on the lives of the common Filipino.

In view of the foregoing, the urgent adoption of this bill is recommended.



SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO

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AN ACT
SETTING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG
KABATAAN OFFICIALS AND FOR 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 Officials.* - The term of office of all
2 elected barangay officials shall be six (6) years. No barangay elective official shall
3 serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position.

4 **SEC. 2.** *Term of Office of Sangguniang Kabataan officials.* - The term of office
5 of all elected Sangguniang Kabataan officials shall be six (6) years. No barangay
6 elective official shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same
7 position.

8 **SEC. 3.** *Date of Election.* - The next regular barangay elections shall be held
9 on the last Monday of October 2029 and every six (6) years thereafter.

10 **SEC. 4.** *Assumption of Office.* - The term of office of barangay officials elected
11 subsequent to the effectivity of this Act shall commence at noon of November 30
12 following their election.

13 **SEC. 5.** *Incumbent officials.* - All incumbent barangay officials shall remain in
14 office unless sooner removed or suspended for cause until their successors shall have
15 been elected and qualified.

1 **SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - The Commission on Elections
2 (COMELEC) shall promulgate such rules and regulations necessary, within ninety (90)
3 days, after the effectivity of this Act.

4 **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act is held
5 unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and binding.

6 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** - All other laws, decrees, executive orders,
7 issuances, rules and regulations, or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby
8 likewise repealed or amended accordingly.

9 **SEC. 9. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the
10 completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national
11 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,