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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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Senate Bill No. 386

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

One of the amendments perceived to be necessary to strengthen the system established by P.D. No. 1508 of amicably setting disputes at the barangay level concerns the institution of safeguards against prescription of actions which may occur if conciliation is resorted to by the parties.

This bill responds to this need by specifically providing that the filing of case with the Punong Barangay interrupts the running of the prescriptive period under the Civil Code and amending Article 1155 therefore to that effect. The suspension, however, should not extend to more than 60 days to prevent the possibility of undue delay that the suspension might entail.

In the interest of encouraging serious recourse to the system of amicably setting disputes at the barangay level, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA enator

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Senate Bill No. 386

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

AN ACT

PROMOTING BARANGAY JUSTICE BY AMENDING ARTICLE ELEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SIX, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CIVIL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. Article 1155 of the Civil Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"ART. 1155. The prescription of actions is interrupted when they are filed before the court, when there is a written extrajudicial demand by the creditors, [and] when there is a written acknowledgement of the debt by the debtor, OR WHEN THEY ARE BROUGHT BEFORE THE PUNONG BARANGAY OR THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA UNDER PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE..

IF BROUGHT BEFORE THE PUNONG BARANGAY OR THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, THE PRESCRIPTION OF ACTION IS SUSPENDED ONLY FOR A PERIOD OF SIXTY (60) DAYS.

SEC 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,