

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL No. 900

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE SALVIO B. FORTUNO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

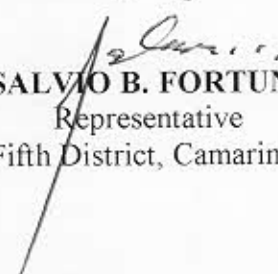
This bill seeks to reset the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections scheduled to be held on the last Monday of October 2016 to the last Monday of October 2017.

The Filipino people had just participated in the national and local elections last May 9, 2016. However, after barely five (5) months from the said political exercise, we will be holding the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections even when the COMELEC officials and employees, teachers, members of civic and religious organizations, who are directly involved in the election activities had barely warm their seats and the sore losers have yet to accept their fate gracefully. The resetting of the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections will, according to the COMELEC, free us from "election fatigue".

The election of barangay and sangguniang kabataan is supposed to be a non-partisan political activity. Yet, our experience in so many past elections has shown time and again that barangay election cannot be totally insulated from the undue influence of partisan politics. Thus, it has caused divisiveness and has its share of some deplorable practices that trigger instances of violence among political leaders and supporters.

It is therefore the paramount objective of this important piece of legislation to reset the synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections scheduled to be held on the last Monday of October 2016 to the last Monday of October 2017. This will definitely allow the Filipino people to take a little longer pause before immersing themselves again into another political battle that will certainly disturb the peaceful condition at the local level. It will also generate savings for the cash-strapped government of more than Three Billion Pesos (P3 Billion) according to the cost estimate made by the COMELEC.

The foregoing reasons warrant the immediate approval of this bill.


SALVIO B. FORTUNO
Representative
Fifth District, Camarines Sur

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL No. 900

Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE SALVIO B. FORTUNO**

AN ACT
RESETTING THE BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT No. 9164, AS
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACTS NUMBERED 9340 AND 10632 AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Acts Numbered 9340 and 10632, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. *Date of Election.* – There shall be synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections which shall be held on July 15, 2002. Subsequent synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be held on the last Monday of October [2007] 2017 and every three years (3) years thereafter.[: *Provided,* That the sangguniang kabataan elections on October 28, 2013 shall be postponed to a date to be determined by the COMELEC between October 28, 2014 and February 23, 2015.”]

SEC. 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Act No. 9340, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. *Assumption of Office.* – The term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected under this Act shall commence on August 15, 2002, next following their elections. The term of office of the barangay and sangguniang kabataan officials elected in the October [2007] 2017 election and subsequent elections shall commence at noon of November 30 next following their election.”

SEC. 3. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Act No. 9340, regarding the hold over capacity of all incumbent barangay officials shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 4. The sangguniang kabataan positions shall remain vacant until the new set of officials shall have been duly elected and qualified and no appointment shall be made to the vacated positions.

SEC. 5. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be taken from the appropriations of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) under the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The COMELEC shall issue the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and thereby remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,