EXPLANATORY NOTE

The role and significance of governance at the local government level cannot be underestimated. By and large, the affairs of the national government cascade to these local government structures in ways that make government action, if they were to be effective, to be immediate, responsive and a prompt solution to the multifarious concerns and problems that affect the barangays and their constituents.

It is in this context that this bill is being proposed. It would seem that a three-year term for Barangay officials is far too short for our local leaders to hit the ground running in terms of their value, role, and impact upon that smaller political unit of society. It is so because the supposedly their year of that people's mandate has become devoted to actions or inactions preparatory to the subsequent Barangay elections.

It cannot be gainsaid that plans, projects, programs and various other activities implemented at the local level do have a gestation period of implementation and the grant of a 3-year mandate is deemed too limited to get all these local government undertakings from being properly implemented and for them to spill down to their rightful beneficiaries.

It is this that this bill seeks to address, hence this submission.

PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO
AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 THEREBY INCREASING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS BY ANOTHER TWO YEARS THEREBY MAKING FIVE (5) YEARS THEIR TERM OF OFFICE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. The term of office of Barangay officials and members of the Sangguniang Kabataan shall be for five (5) years which shall begin after the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 2. To this end, Section 43 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 43. Term of Office. –

(a) The term of Barangay officials and members of the Sangguniang Kabataan shall be for FIVE (5) years which shall begin after the regular election of Barangay officials after the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,