

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
2727
HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by Honorable Wes Gatchalian

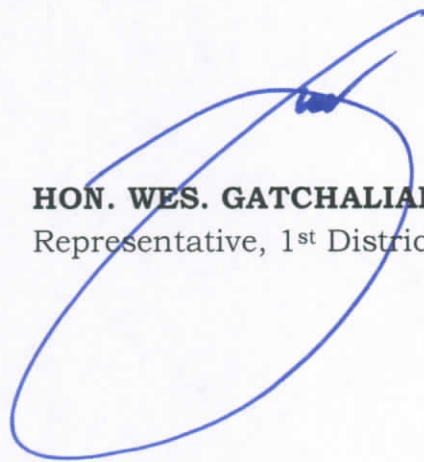
AN ACT
POSTPONING THE MAY 2020 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT 10923, AND REPUBLIC ACT 10952, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Explanatory Note

In the recent pronouncement of President in his State of the Nation address, he had appealed for the postponement of the barangay elections - postulating to give ample time for these political units to continue the programs they had laid down. This initiative seeks to heed the call of the President.

This Representation is in consonance with the reservation espoused by the President that the State must maintain stability and constancy in the programs implemented especially in the grassroots level. The three-year period seem too short to provide the uninterrupted continuity in the pursuit of the goals laid down by these barangay officials. The barangays being the "*primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community*", it is of primordial interest that we grant them ample time to fulfill these endeavours. Hence, we seek to postpone the scheduled May 2020 elections to May 2022 in keeping with the direction which the President had proposed.

In view of this, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, loopy oval shape with a small mark at the top right.

HON. WES. GATCHALIAN

Representative, 1st District Valenzuela City

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
2727
HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by Honorable Wes Gatchalian

AN ACT
POSTPONING THE MAY 2020 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT 10923, AND REPUBLIC ACT 10952, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **Section 1. Declaration of Policy.** - It is the prime duty of the State to
2 serve and protect the people. In line with this duty, the State seeks to maintain
3 stability and constancy in the programs implemented especially in the
4 grassroots level. The three-year period for our barangay officials seem too short
5 to provide the uninterrupted continuity in the pursuit of the goals laid down by
6 the barangay officials. The barangays being the "*primary planning and*
7 *implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and*
8 *activities in the community*", it is of primordial interest that we grant them
9 ample time to fulfill these endeavour. It is hereby declared the policy of the
10 State to postpone the May 2020 *barangay* and *sangguniang kabataan* elections
11 to May 2022 to provide ample time for the general welfare of the people.

12
13 **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9164, as amended by Republic Act
14 No. 10923, and Republic Act No. 10952 is hereby further amended to read as
15 follows:

16
17 "**SECTION 1. Date of Election.** - There shall be synchronized
18 *barangay* and *sangguniang kabataan* elections, which shall be held on
19 July 15, 2002. Subsequent synchronized *barangay* and *sangguniang*
20 *kabataan* elections shall be held on the last Monday of October 2007 and
21 every three (3) years thereafter: *Provided*, That the *barangay* and
22 *sangguniang kabataan* elections on the second Monday of May 2020
23 **SHALL BE POSTPONED TO THE SECOND MONDAY OF MAY 2022.**
24 Subsequent synchronized *barangay* and *sangguniang kabataan* elections
25 shall be held every three (3) years thereafter."

26
27 **Sec. 3. Hold Over.** - Until their successors shall have been duly elected

1 and qualified, or until the President, through the Executive Secretary, shall
2 appoint officers-in-charge for the barangay, all incumbent barangay officials
3 shall remain in office, unless sooner removed or suspended for cause: *Provided,*
4 *that* in addition to the other causes under existing laws, inclusion of the name
5 of an incumbent barangay official in the duly confirmed and validated Drug
6 List provided to and in possession of the President shall constitute sufficient
7 cause for the appointment of *officers-in-charge* for the barangay; and *Provided,*
8 *finally,* *that* barangay officials who are *ex officio* members of the *sangguniang*
9 *bayan, sangguniang panlungsod, or sangguniang panlalawigan,* as the case
10 may be shall continue to serve as such members in the *sanggunian* concerned
11 until the next barangay election. *The Liga ng mga Barangay* at the municipal,
12 city, and provincial levels shall, within thirty (30) days after the next barangay
13 election, conduct elections for *ex officio* positions in the *sanggunians* under the
14 supervision of the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

15
16 **Sec. 4. Ban of Government Projects.** - The construction or
17 maintenance of barangay-funded roads and bridges shall be prohibited for a
18 period of ten (10) days immediately preceding the date of election, the
19 provisions of Section 261, paragraphs (v) and (w), of the Omnibus Election
20 Code to the contrary notwithstanding.

21
22 **Sec. 5. Prohibition on Appointments of Government Officials.** - The
23 appointment or hiring of new employees, creation of new position, promotion,
24 or giving of salary increases, remuneration or privileges in the barangay shall
25 be prohibited for a period of ten (10) days immediately preceding the election,
26 the provisions of Section 261, paragraph (g), of the Omnibus Election Code to
27 the contrary notwithstanding.

28
29 **Sec. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The COMELEC shall,
30 within thirty (30) days after the effectivity of this Act, promulgate such rules
31 and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

32
33 **Sec. 7. Repealing Clause.** - All other laws, acts, presidential decrees,
34 executive orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations
35 or parts thereof, which are contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of
36 this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

37
38 **Sec. 8. Separability Clause.** - If any portion or provision of this Act is
39 declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not
40 affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

41
42 **Sec. 9. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following
43 the completion of its publication either in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper
44 of general circulation in the Philippines.

45
46 *Approved*