

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9889



INTRODUCED BY: HONORABLE MARISOL C. PANOTES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The role of the barangay is explicitly defined under Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991. As the basic political unit, the barangay serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, programs, projects and activities in the community. It also serves as a forum where collective views of the people are expressed and crystallized, and where disputes may also be settled. Apparently, due to various functions and responsibilities reposed on barangays, the Local Government Code of 1991, aside from the punong barangay, seven (7) sangguniang members, the Sangguniang Kabataan Chairperson, a secretary, a treasurer and members of the lupong tagapamayapa, empowers the sangguniang barangay to form community brigades and such other positions to carry out the purposes of the barangay government in accordanc with the needs of the public service.

In pursuance with this legal mandate, practically, all barangays nationwide have organized the Puroks composed of a Purok Leader and seven (7) Purok Kagawads. These Puroks assume, within their respective jurisdiction, the role of barangay. It is quite unfair to them, however, that while they are doing their tasks to make the duties and responsibilities of barangay officials less difficult and taxing, they are not even recognized as barangay officials or even as persons in authority within the contemplation of the law.

It is therefore the paramount objective of this important piece of legislation to authorize the sangguniang bayan and sangguniang panlungsod to create puroks in barangays where there is no existing barangay purok.

The number of puroks under this bill shall not be more than three (3) nor more than eight (8) depending on the number of households. However, barangay puroks existing before the effectivity of this Act shall be recognized but limited to only a maximum eight (8) puroks in each barangay and five (5) kagawads per purok, and all Purok Leaders shall be considered as barangay officials within the contemplation of the Local Government Code of 1991 in order for them to be accorded rights, and be entitled to receive benefits and privileges granted to barangay officials. This is the most fair and logical thing for Congress to do in order for them to work doubly hard for the good of the people living in the smallest political unit called the barangay.

In view of the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



MARISOL C. PANOTES

Representative

Second District, Camarines Norte

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AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE EXISTENCE OF BARANGAY PUROKS, PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER OF ELECTIONS, TERM AND QUALIFICATIONS OF PUROK OFFICIALS, AND GRANTING BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO PUROK LEADERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 387, 388 AND 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, AS AMENDED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as “*Barangay Purok Act.*”

SEC. 2. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act, the following term shall mean:

- a. **Purok** refers to a division within a barangay, which serves as a unit for delivering services and administration within such smallest political unit;
- b. **Purok Officials** refer to the Purok Leader and five (5) purok kagawads;

- c. **Household** refers to a social unit consisting of a person living alone or a group of person who reside in the same housing unit and have a common arrangement in the preparation and consumption of food.

SEC. 3. Sections 387, 388, and 393 of Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 as amended are hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 387. Chief Officials and Offices. – (a) There shall be in each barangay a punong barangay, seven (7) sangguniang barangay members, PUROK LEADERS AND FIVE (5) PUROK KAGAWADS IN EACH PUROK, the sangguniang kabataan chairman, a barangay secretary and a barangay treasurer.

(b) There shall also be in every barangay a lupong tagapamayapa. THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN AND SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD SHALL CREATE PUROKS, WHICH SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN THREE (3) NOR MORE THAN EIGHT (8) DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS. EACH PUROK, WHICH SHALL BE COMPOSED OF A PUROK LEADER AND FIVE (5) PUROK KAGAWADS, SHALL AT LEAST HAVE TWENTY (20) HOUSEHOLDS: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT ALL PUROKS ORGANIZED BEFORE THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT ARE HEREBY RECOGNIZED AND ARE NOT COVERED BY THE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY THIS SECTION.* The sangguniang barangay may ALSO form community brigades and create such other positions or offices as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the barangay government in accordance with the needs of public service, subject to the budgetary limitations on personal services prescribed under Title Five, Book II of this Code.”

“SECTION 388. Persons in Authority. – For purposes of the Revised Penal Code, the punong barangay, sangguniang barangay members, PUROK LEADERS, and members of the lupong tagapamayapa in each barangay shall be deeme as persons in authority in their jurisdictions, while other barangay officials and members who may be designated by law or ordinance and charged with the maintenance of public order, protection and security of life and property, or the maintenance of a desirable and balanced environment, and any barangay member who comes to the aid of persons in authority, shall be deemed agents of persons in authority.
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“SECTION 393. Benefits of Barangay Officials AND PUROK LEADERS. – (a) Barangay officials, including PUROK LEADERS, barangay tanods and members of the lupong tagapamayapa, shall receive honoraria, allowances and such other emoluments as may be authorized by law or barangay, municipal or city ordinance in accordance with the provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than [One] FIVE thousand pesos [(P1,000.00)] (P5,000.00) per month for punong barangay and [six hundred pesos (P600.00)] TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00) per month for sangguniang barangay member, PUROK LEADERS, barangay treasurer, and barangay secretary: *Provided, however,* That the annual appropriations for personal services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under Title Five, Book II of this Code.

(b) The punong barangay, the sangguniang barangay members, THE PUROK LEADERS, the barangay treasurer, and the barangay secretary shall also:

(1) Be entitled to Christmasbonus of at least One thousand pesos (P1,000.00) each, the funds for which shall be taken from the general fund of the barangay or from such other funds appropriated by the national government for the purpose;

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SEC. 4. Manner of Elections – The elections of Purok Leaders and Purok Kagawads by qualified purok residents shall be held sixty (60) days after every barangay elections. They shall serve for the same term and qualifications as barangay officials.

The Municipal Local Government Officer, with the assistance of barangay officials, shall supervise the elections.

The Purok Leaders shall serve as *ex-officio* members of the sangguniang barangay.

SEC. 5. Succession. - If a permanent vacancy occurs in the office of the Purok Leader, the highest ranking Purok Kagawad, or in case of his permanent

inability, the second highest ranking Purok Kagawad shall become the Purok Leader.

SEC. 6. Rules and Regulations. – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in consultation with the Liga ng mga Barangay and the Leagues of Provinces, Cities and Municipalities, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

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

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,