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FAQs on Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act

In a bid to fight corruption and inefficiency and to implement various reforms in the barangay youth arm, President Benigno Aquino III has signed into law Republic Act (RA) 10742 or the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Reform Act.

What is RA 10742 or the SK Reform Act?

RA 10742 or the SK Reform Act is an Act establishing reforms in the SK creating enabling mechanisms for meaningful youth participation in nation-building, and for other purposes.

What are the implementing agencies?

The implementing agencies are: Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Youth Commission (NYC), Commission on Elections (COMELEC), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Department of Education (DepEd), and Commission on Audit (COA).

What are the salient features of the law?

- Age requirement raised from 15-17 years old to 18-24 years old which allows youth officials to legally enter contracts and be held liable. They will be elected by youth voters who are at least 15 but not more than 30 years of age and residing in the barangay for six months.
- Institution of an anti-dynasty provision, particularly prohibiting relatives of elected or appointed officials within the second civil degree of consanguinity or affinity from seeking SK positions.
- Creation of the Local Youth Development Council (LYDC) which will ensure the participation of youth organizations from different communities.
- Requirement for SK officials to undergo leadership training to learn about good government practices and fiscal transparency.

What are the roles of the DILG in connection with the law?

- Election, suspension and removal of the officers of the *Pederasyon* at all levels and the term of office of the other offices of the *Pederasyon* shall be governed by the guidelines to be jointly issued by the DILG, COMELEC and NYC.
- The NYC and DILG, with the assistance of the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP), the Local Government Academy (LGA), the University of the Philippines (UP) – National College of Public Administration and Governance, and in consultation with youth stakeholders, will jointly design and implement mandatory and continuing training programs.
- The DILG, DBM and CHED shall formulate and disseminate guidelines for the reimbursement of state universities and colleges.

- Rules and procedure to be followed in the implementation of the policy on full public disclosure shall be promulgated by the DILG.
- Guidelines in determining the quorum for Katipunan ng Kabataan (KK) assemblies shall be formulated by the DILG and NYC.
- Forms for the annual and end-of-term program accomplishments and financial reports of the SK shall be prescribed by the DILG and NYC.
- Template for youth profiling and maintenance of database of youth in the barangay shall be designed by the DILG and NYC.

With the passing of the SK Reform Act, the Filipino youth's ability to lead and participate in our government's development will be far more responsive and strengthened. Hence, the next breed of leaders would be leading a positive change in the society. Mabuhay ang Kabataang Pinoy!

Daryl M Jaramilla

DILG-CO QUALITY POLICY

We, the DILG Central Office, commit to formulate sound policies and provide effective technical and administrative services to promote excellence in local governance, strengthen local government capacities, and enhance the service delivery of our Regional and Field Offices.