

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



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
2nd Regular Session

House Bill No. 8161

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INTRODUCED BY  
REPRESENTATIVE FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

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**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 13 ARTICLE XVI OF  
REPUBLIC ACT 11054, ENTITLED "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE  
ORGANIC LAW FOR THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN  
MUSLIM MINDANAO, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT  
6734, ENTITLED "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIC LAW OF THE  
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO" AS AMENDED BY  
REPUBLIC ACT 9054, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND  
EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN  
MUSLIM MINDANAO AND FIXING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE FIRST  
REGULAR ELECTION FOR THE BANGSAMORO GOVERNMENT**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The COVID-19 Pandemic has greatly affected our country especially our government institutions. It has shifted our priorities and activities towards controlling the spread of the virus and improving the lives of our people that suffered due the economic crisis caused by the pandemic.

This bill seeks to amend Section 13 Article XVI of Republic Act 11504, or the Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao to postpone the conduct of its First Regular Election from 2022 to 2025. It will allow the Bangsamoro Government to focus on the needs of

the Bangsamoro people and ensure the continued growth and development of their region.

The postponement will likewise give ample time for a full and more efficient transition of the BARMM and the effective implementation of the programs and operations of the Bangsamoro Transition Authority

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

  
FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

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

SECTION 1. Section 13 Article XVI of the Bangsamoro Organic Law is hereby amended to read as follows:



SECTION 13. *First Regular Election.* – The first regular election for the Bangsamoro Government under this Organic Law shall be held and synchronized with the 2025 national elections. The Commission on Elections, through the Bangsamoro Electoral Office, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the conduct of the elections, enforce and administer them pursuant to national laws, this Organic Law and the Bangsamoro Electoral Code.

Section 2. *Separability Clause.* – If for any section or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the other section or provision not so declared shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* and in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, and one (1) local newspaper of general circulation in the autonomous region.

Approved.