

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 25



Introduced by: **REP. JOSEPH STEPHEN S. PADUANO**

A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE ALLEGED DELAYED RELEASED OF THE 10% BARANGAY FUND INTENDED FOR THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 20 (a) of the SK Reform Act of 2015 (Republic Act No. 10742), ten percent (10%) of the general fund of the barangay shall be set aside for the SK. The Sangguniang Kabataan shall appropriate the SK Funds in lump-sum, which shall be disbursed solely for youth development and empowerment purposes;

WHEREAS, Section 20 (b) of the same law provides that the SK shall have financial independence in its operations, disbursements and encashment of their fund, income and expenditures.

WHEREAS, last January 2019, the DILG, DBM and the NYC issued a Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) that prescribes the guidelines on the appropriations and release of the SK Funds, provides for the planning and budgeting and emphasizes the associated posting requirements to enhance transparency and accountability;

WHEREAS, said JMC reiterates financial independence of the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) in spending its 10% fund as provided under Republic Act NO. 10742, this means that it shall be automatically released by the barangay to the SK and shall not be subject to any lien or holdback that may be imposed by the barangay;

WHEREAS, with this, there is a need to have a separate account for the fund with the SK Chairperson and SK Treasurer as official signatories. Barangay Officials shall be penalized if they fail to release any amount of the SK Fund;

WHEREAS, with the release of the new circular, the responsibility and accountability in the utilization and disbursement of SK Funds shall rest upon SK officials concerned;

WHEREAS, the issuance of the Joint Memorandum Circular delays or even impedes the implementation of SK programs due to the absence of separate auditing guidelines for the expenditure of the 2018 and 2019 SK Funds;

WHEREAS, the only remaining obstacle is the release of the SK Fund Guidelines are still being formulated by the DBM, DILG and COA;

WHEREAS, as of the moment, only SK budget for fiscal years 2017 and below programmed by the Task Force are the funds being used by the SK;

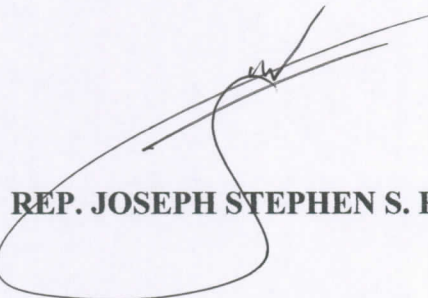
WHEREAS, the release of fund guidelines will enable the 400,000 SK leaders of the country to finally utilize the funds for their projects and activities in the 42,000 barangays for the protection and welfare of the youth;

WHEREAS, SK leaders play a crucial role in making sure that the youth at the barangay level do not engage in the sale or use of drugs by focusing the youth's energies on useful projects that can further develop themselves as productive members of their communities;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Kabataan should also push for projects that mobilizes the youth in helping the government respond to disasters in their towns and provinces and in spreading nationalism in schools and communities;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, for the House Committee on Local Government to immediately conduct an investigation in aid of legislation on the above-mentioned issues and circumstances in order to expedite the delayed released of the 10% barangay general fund intended for the Sangguniang Kabataan and to come out with the necessary legislation for this purpose

ADOPTED.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph S. Paduano', is written over a large, hand-drawn oval. The signature is positioned above the printed name of the representative.

REP. JOSEPH STEPHEN S. PADUANO