

1
2 Republic of the Philippines
3 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
4 **BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY**
5 Cotabato City

6 **BTA PARLIAMENT**
7 *Second Regular Session*

8
9 Parliament Bill No. 172



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24
25 **AN ACT**
26 **MANDATING THE FORMULATION AND PUBLICATION OF A KATARUNGANG**
27 **PAMBARANGAY HANDBOOK THAT WILL BE TRANSLATED INTO THE BARMM**
28 **MAJOR DIALECTS**

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31 **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

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34 Section 6, Article IV of Republic Act No. 11054, otherwise known as the Bangsamoro
35 Organic Law (BOL) provides that:

36
37 *“Promotion of Unity. – The Bangsamoro Government*
38 *shall promote unity, peace, justice, and goodwill among*
39 *all peoples, as well as encourage a **just and peaceful***
40 ***settlement of disputes.**”*

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42 Katarungang Pambarangay or Barangay Justice System is a community-based mechanism
43 for dispute settlement administered by the basic political unit of the country - the Barangay¹ whose

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¹ <https://www.galingpook.org/what-we-do/awards/awardees/strengthening-the-justice-system-in-the-grassroots/>

1 ultimate goal is to improve access to justice through amicable settlement of family and community
2 disputes.

3
4 Barangays are at the very frontline of the provision of basic services and have become a
5 strategic point to ensure that government programs are felt by the people, they being the first
6 responders of governance and are within the reach of mostly all constituents².

7
8 Based on the findings of the National Capital Region Report, almost 20% of the
9 participants of a study conducted in NCR were not aware of any services offered by the Lupon.
10 Hence, it is possible to suggest that in more isolated areas, the lack of information will be higher
11 than in the capital region.³

12
13 In order to address the communities' lack of knowledge and appreciation of the Barangay
14 Justice System and help the implementors of the Katarungang Pambarangay Law in understanding
15 their mandate, a handbook that will serve as a reference for Barangay officials will be formulated,
16 developed, and translated into the BARMM's major dialects.

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18 For these reasons, this representation earnestly asks for the approval of the bill.
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25 **HON. ENGR. DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG, JD, MPSA, CESE**
26 *Member of the Parliament – Bangsamoro Transition Authority*
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² Barangay Primer (2018), 6th Edition, Local Government Academy (LGA) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
³ Silvia Sanz-Ramos Rojo. The Barangay Justice System in the Philippines: Is It An Effective Alternative To Improve Access to Justice for Disadvantaged People? (2002)

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30 *Be it enacted by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament in session assembled:*

31 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Alay sa Lupon Act of 2023*”.

32 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the Bangsamoro
33 Government to promote unity, peace, justice, and goodwill among all peoples, as well as encourage
34 a just and peaceful settlement of disputes.⁴

35 **SECTION 3. Definition of Terms.** – For the purpose of this Act, “Katarungang
36 Pambarangay Law” refers to the provisions in Chapter 7, Title I, Book III of the Local Government
37 Code of 1991 or to the applicable provision of the Bangsamoro Local Governance Code. Provided
38 That, in case of conflict, the latter shall govern.

⁴ Section 6, Article IV of Republic Act No. 11054, otherwise known as the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL)

1 **SECTION 4. *Formulation of Katarungang Pambarangay Handbook.*** - The Ministry of
2 Interior and Local Government shall formulate, develop and publish a Katarungang Pambarangay
3 Law handbook which shall be translated into the major dialects of the Bangsamoro Autonomous
4 Region in Muslim Mindanao.

5 **SECTION 5. *Key Contents.*** – In the formulation of the handbook, including its writing
6 and publication, the Ministry concerned shall ensure that the material communicates the ideas
7 clearly to the concerned officials, makes the task of following the procedure as effortless as
8 possible, and includes annotations of relevant laws which shall include, but not be limited to
9 *Katarangunang Pambarangay Law*, jurisdictions, and special laws. The Handbook may be
10 republished every five (5) years to keep up with novel measures related to the implementation of
11 the Katarungang Pambarangay Law.

12 **SECTION 6. *Information-Dissemination.*** – The Ministry of Interior and Local
13 Government shall provide an electronic copy and a hard copy of the handbook to all the constituent
14 Barangays of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and shall require the
15 maintenance of the availability of a hard copy in their respective offices.
16

17 **SECTION 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from the
18 approval of this Act, the MILG shall, in consultation with other concerned government agencies,
19 experts, teachers, historians, linguists, legal luminaries and other stakeholders, promulgate rules
20 and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

21 **SECTION 8. *Appropriations Clause.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions
22 of this Act shall be included in the Bangsamoro Appropriations Act.

23 **SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All regional laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations,
24 other issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
25 modified accordingly.

26 **SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared
27 unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other parts or provisions not
28 affected thereby shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

29 **SECTION 11. *Effectivity.*** – This act shall take effect fifteen days (15) after its complete
30 publication in at least two (2) regional newspapers of general circulation.

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32 **APPROVED,**

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Certified Correct:

PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary General

Attested by:

HON. ATTY. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG
Speaker