

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4703



Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.,**
HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY “HORI” G.
HORIBATA AND HON. NICOLAS “NICK” ENCISO VIII

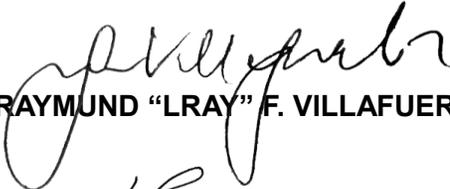
EXPLANATORY NOTE

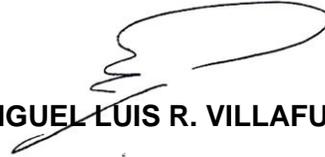
Republic Act No. 7160, also known as the Local Government Code, Section 469 thereof provides that “There shall be a Secretary to the *Sanggunian* who shall be career official with the rank and salary equal to a head of department or office. The Civil Service Commission, in Resolution No. 92-1111 dated 20 August 1992, interpreted the aforesaid provision to mean that a Secretary to the *Sanggunian*, whether of a municipality, city, or province, is not a department head but only occupies a position “equal to a head of department or office.”

It is believed that the Secretary to the *Sanggunian* is the head of the office of the *Sanggunian*, as a separate department of the local government, the Vice-Governor, or Vice-Mayor being the second highest-ranking officer of the entire local government after the Governor or Mayor as the case may be. To consider the Vice-Governor or Vice-Mayor as a department head is tantamount to demoting him in rank and stature as he is assigned a salary grade higher than that given a local government department head and is the acknowledged assistant chief executive of his local government unit.

The relegation of the position of a Secretary to the *Sanggunian* to a level other than that of a department head when all his qualifications, powers, and functions related to a department head lowers his morale as it constitutes a virtual source of discrimination. This bill restitutes the position of Secretary to the *Sanggunian* to the local government department head.

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


LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.


MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE


TSUYOSHI ANTHONY “HORI” G. HORIBATA


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**AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, ALSO KNOWN AS THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT CODE, ON THE LEVEL OF THE POSITION OF SECRETARY TO THE
SANGGUNIAN**

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

SECTION 1. Republic Act No. 7160, also known as the Local Government Code, Book 3, Title V, Article 1, Section 469, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 469. Qualifications, Powers and Duties. – (a) There shall be a secretary to the *Sanggunian* who shall be a career official with the rank and salary (equal to) of a head of department or office.”

SECTION 2. Republic Act No. 7160, Book 3, Title VI, Chapter 2, Section 508 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Chapter 2. – Leagues and Federations of Local (Elective) Officials
Section 508. Organization. – (a) Vice-governors, vice-mayors,
sanggunian members of barangays, municipalities, component cities,

highly-urbanized cities and municipalities, and other (elective) officials of local government units, including those of the Metropolitan Manila area and any metropolitan political subdivisions, may form their respective leagues or federation, subject to applicable provisions of this title and pertinent provisions of this Code.”

SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rules or regulations or part thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,