

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the Election Officer
Municipality of _____
Province of _____

PETITION
**FOR INCLUSION IN THE PLEBISCITE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE ORGANIC
LAW FOR THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO**

PETITIONER, unto this Honorable Office, respectfully submits this petition for inclusion in the January 21, 2019 plebiscite for ratification of the Organic Law of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, or Republic Act No. 11054. The pertinent facts and grounds for the petition are as follows:

INITIATING PETITIONER

1. Petitioner (name of petitioner) is of legal age, a Filipino, and a resident of (full address);

2. S/he is a registered voter of Barangay (name of barangay), municipality of (name of municipality province of (name of province)). Attached hereto is his/her voter's identification card as Annex "A";

3. Supporting this petition are the registered voters of Barangay (name of barangay), Municipality of (name of municipality), Province of (name of province), as evidenced by the their signatures in the attached signature sheets, attached hereto as Annex "B"

STATEMENT OF FACTS

3. Section 15, Article X of the Philippine Constitution mandates the creation of the autonomous in Muslim Mindanao;

4. The Constitution provides that provinces, cities and geographic areas may be included in the creation of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao;

5. The Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) negotiated for the peaceful resolution of the conflict in the south of the Philippines which resulted in the signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro;

6. Pursuant to the agreement of the Parties and the mandate of the Constitution, the Congress of the Philippines enacted RA 11054 or the Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region;

7. The said law provides for the participation/joining of contiguous areas either by resolution of the local Sanggunian of the local government unit concerned or by petition of at least ten (10) percentum of its total registered voters;

8. Barangay (name of barangay) in the municipality of (name of municipality), Province of (name of province), is contiguous to Barangay (name of barangay of core area), municipality of (name of municipality of core area), province of (name of province of core area), which is one of the local government units mentioned in Section 2 (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e), Article III of Republic Act 11054, and that in order to support this statement, a certified true copy of the map showing such contiguity is attached hereto as Annex "C";

P R A Y E R

WHEREFORE, premises considered, it is respectfully prayed that Barangay (name of barangay), (name of municipality), (name of province) be included in the January 21, 2019 plebiscite for the ratification of the Organic Law of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, or RA 11054, with the intention of joining the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region.

Other reliefs, just and equitable, are likewise prayed for.

(Municipality) _____, (Province) _____, _____ (date of filing of petition).

(Printed name and signature)

Initiating Petitioner

Barangay _____, (Municipality) _____, (Province) _____

VERIFICATION

I, _____, of legal age, Filipino, with address at _____, after being sworn to in accordance with law, depose and state, that:

I am the initiating petitioner in the above-titled petition;

I have caused the preparation and filing of the foregoing Petition and have read and understood the contents therein are true as regarding the facts to the best of my personal knowledge and authentic documents;

(name and signature)
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this _____ day of October 2018, in _____, affiant having satisfactorily proven his/her identity to me through this _____ (government ID and number) issued on _____, showing that he/he is the same person who personally signed the foregoing Petition for Inclusion before me and that s/he acknowledged that s/he executed the same in his/her own, true, free, voluntary act and deed.

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Petitions by registered voters:

1. Who may file: Any registered voter of an LGU that is contiguous to the core territory (this person shall be called the “initiating petitioner”); petition should be supported by at least 10% of the registered voters in that LGU (who are called the “supporting petitioners”)
2. How many copies: 9 copies (plus copies to be retained by the initiating petitioner)
3. Content of the petition:
 - a. The name, address, age, gender and signature, of the initiating petitioner. In case s/he is illiterate, a thumb mark will do, provided that the illiteracy appears in the petitioner’s registration records
 - b. The name, address, age, gender and signature of each supporting petitioner. In case s/he is illiterate, a thumb mark will do, provided that the illiteracy appears in the petitioner’s registration records
 - c. The barangay, municipality, city, legislative district and province to which the initiating and supporting petitioners belong
 - d. That the initiating and supporting petitioners are registered voters of the LGU petitioned for inclusion in the January 21, 2019 plebiscite
 - e. That based on the result of the latest Election Registration Board (ERB) hearing the LGU petitioned for inclusion, the initiating and supporting petitioners constitute at least 10% of the registered voters thereat;
 - f. That the initiating and supporting petitioners’ registration records are all on active status as of the date of the filing of the petition;
 - g. That the initiating petitioner commits that the supporting petitioners will, during the confirmation and affirmation period provided herein, appear before the Office of the Election Officer concerned to confirm their signatures (or thumb marks in the case of illiterate voters), and to affirm that the initiating petitioner explained to them the purpose of the petition, and that they have read and understood the petition;
 - h. That the initiating petitioner explained to the supporting petitioners the purpose of the petition before the supporting petitioners signed the petition (or imprinted their thumb marks if illiterate)
 - i. What specific areas in the core territory is contiguous to the

- petitioning LGU
 - j. Reason for the claim of contiguity
 - k. That there is no pending boundary dispute involving the petitioning LGU
4. Attachments:
- a. Original or certified true copy of a map showing the territorial boundaries of the petitioning LGU, and the LGU (in the core territory) to which it is contiguous
 - b. Original or certified true copy of a certification from the Sangguniang Bayan/ Sangguniang Panlungsod of the petitioning LGU that there is no pending boundary dispute involving the petitioning LGU; and
 - c. Original or certified true copy of a certification from the appropriate Sangguniang Panlalawigan that there is no boundary dispute involving the petitioning LGU
 - d. Signature sheets containing the
 - i. names, addresses, ages and genders and signatures (or thumb marks) of the supporting petitioners, and arranged by barangay, city or municipality.
 - ii. the name of the LGU petitioned,
 - iii. a brief narration of the reasons and justifications for filing the petition, and
 - iv. the barangay, municipality or city, and legislative district to which each of the petitioners belong
5. When to file: on or before November 4, 2018
6. Where:
- a. If LGU petitioned for inclusion is a barangay, municipality or city: with the Office of the Election Officer (OEO) where such petitioner is a registered voter (in the municipality or city)
 - b. If the LGU petitioned is a province: with the Office of the Provincial Election Supervisor (PES) of the province.
7. How: By personal filing by initiating petition, who shall sign the petition before the Election Officer (EO) (if LGU petitioned is a barangay, city or municipality), or the PES (if the petitioner LGU is a province). The EO or PES are authorized to administer the oath of the initiating petitioner, free of charge
8. Fees: Filing fee of P10,000.00 and a research fee of P100.00 shall be paid upon filing of the resolution. This shall be tendered to the EO or PES payable to the Cash Division, COMELEC, Manila in the form of a manager's check or postal money order.
9. Within 3 days from the receipt of the petition, the EO shall

determine the schedule of the confirmation and affirmation period (which shall not be earlier than 3 days from the issuance of the notice), and issue the Notice of Schedule, have the copy of the Notice personally served to the initiating petitioner, and posted on the bulletin board of the OEO and the city or municipal hall.

10. Confirmation and affirmation: to be done for a period not to exceed 5 days. It shall be done at the OEO, during regular office hours.
 - The supporting petitioners shall appear before the EO on the scheduled days
 - The EO shall establish the identity of the person presenting to be a supporting petitioner through the supporting petitioner's photograph, signature containing in the Voter Registration System of the municipality or city, then proceed to determine whether the supporting petitioner is a registered voter therein
 - Once the identity is established and that the supporting petitioner is a registered voter in the city/ municipality with an active status, the EO shall ask the petitioner to confirm his/her signatures in the petition, and affirm that the initiating petitioner explained to him/her the purpose of the petition and that she has read and understood the said petition
 - The supporting petitioner shall then sign in the appropriate space provided in the signature sheet, indicating the date and time of confirmation and affirmation
 - The EO shall ratify the fact of confirmation and affirmation by signing in the appropriate space in the signature sheet indicating the date and time of ratification
11. At the end of the confirmation and affirmation period, or when all the supporting petitioners have appeared before the EO, whichever comes first, the EO shall terminate the confirmation and affirmation, and proceed to count the total numbers of petitioners registered in the city/municipality with active registration records that confirmed/affirmed before the EO, and determine if the number constitutes at least 10% of the registered voters in the city/ municipality
12. Within 2 days from the termination of the confirmation and affirmation, the EO shall issue a Certification as to whether or not the total number of petitioners that confirmed/affirmed is at least 10% of the registered voters
13. EO shall submit the Certification, together with the 8 copies of the petition and the signature sheets, to the Clerk of the COMELEC, within 2 days from the issuance of the Certification

14. Upon the filing of the petition, the COMELEC en banc shall immediately set it for hearing and shall send notices to:
 - a. Initiating petitioner
 - b. The LGU being petitioner
 - c. The LGU that has jurisdiction over the LGU being petitioner
 - d. The LGUs that issued the certification that there are no boundary disputes involving the LGU being petitioned
15. Any interested party may file a verified opposition to the petition on or before the date of the hearing
16. COMELEC shall hear the petition summarily
17. COMELEC shall decide the petition within 15 days from the date it was submitted for resolution, but not later than the last working day of October 2018