

BASIC : LETTER DATED JULY 07, 2008, FROM MS. MARIA THERESA S. BOCA, MLGOO, DILG LARENA OFFICE

2nd Indorsement

July 8, 2008

Respectfully returned to Ms. Dominica Lacuesta, Provincial Director, DILG Siquijor Provincial Office, the herein basic communication from MLGOO Maria Theresa S. Boca of DILG Larena Office, on the educational benefits of barangays officials and their dependents under Section 393 of the Local Government Code of 1991, and of SK officials under Section 434 of the same law.

To reiterate, the problem with the implementation of the educational benefits of barangay officials as provided in Section 393(4) and of SK officials under Section 434 of the Code started on September 05, 2005, when the Commission on Higher Education issued its Memorandum Order No. 30 S2005 entitled "Rescission of CHED Memorandum Order No. 62 S1997 Providing For The Guidelines On The Study Grant Program For Barangay Officials and Their Legitimate Dependents To Implement Section 393, Paragraph 4 of the Local Government Code". Said CHED Memorandum Order No. 30 S2005 revoked CHED Order No. 62 S1997 and allowed the respective Governing Boards of State Universities and Colleges to be the implementing agencies of Sections 393(4) and 434 of the Local Government Code. Our Department, through then SILG Angelo T. Reyes called the attention of CHED and the Association of State Universities and Colleges and pointed out its position on the matter, that the acceptance of barangay scholars (barangay officials and their dependents and SK officials) is not and should not be made subject to any condition since the law does not set any condition. However, the Commission on Higher Education was relentless and stood pat on its position and, through CHED Resolution No. 220-2007 dated March 26, 2007, reiterated its stand to allow the state universities and colleges to determine their own guidelines on the implementation of the educational benefits of barangay and SK officials provided in the Local Government Code.

As stated earlier, our Central Office had made a stand on this concern during the time of Secretary Angelo T. Reyes. Nevertheless, we recently brought to their attention the numerous complaints received by our field offices under our 1st Indorsement dated June 10, 2008.

PEDRO A. NOVAL, JR.
Regional Director