

## LEGAL POLITICS CHANGES TO THE PERIODIZATION OF THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE HEAD BASED ON LAW NUMBER 3 OF 2024 SECOND AMENDMENT TO LAW NUMBER 6 OF 2014 CONCERNING VILLAGES

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### ABSTRACT

*This study examines the recent amendments in Law Number 3 of 2024, which revises Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages, particularly regarding the extension of the village head's term from 6 years with a maximum of 3 periods to 8 years with a maximum of 2 periods. The change, influenced by demands from village heads, has sparked significant debate due to the lack of clear legal justification supporting it. This research aims to assess the rationale behind this change and its potential implications on village governance, particularly its effects on leadership effectiveness, power concentration, and community impact. Using both a statute approach to analyze the legal texts and a conceptual approach to explore the broader political and governance implications, the study finds that while the extended tenure may offer continuity and more time for village heads to implement their programs, it also raises concerns about political dynasties and potential misuse of power. The study suggests that although longer terms may improve governance, careful consideration is needed to balance this with democratic values. The findings provide crucial insights for policymakers, underscoring the potential risks and benefits of this legal reform in strengthening or weakening local democratic processes and governance.*

**KEYWORDS** Periodization, Village, Law.



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### INTRODUCTION

Village is the smallest constitutional order after City/Regency. Because when you look at the village, democracy appears to be a habit that was initially used by the Indonesian people. When looking at the order of the village apparatus, it is almost the same as the country which is the largest democratic order. Villages are communities that are given legal authority and have their own territorial boundaries and authorities that are recognized by the state as embodied in the law. The village is authorized to regulate and manage its own government affairs, community interests based on community democratic initiatives, rights of origin and/or

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traditional rights that are recognized and respected in the system of government of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia (Pamungkas, 2019). Villages are the main milestones in the running of the government system. The existence of Villages is juridically formally recognized in Law No. 9/2015 concerning the Second Amendment to Law No. 23/2014 concerning Regional Government, hereinafter referred to as Law No. 9 of 2015 and Government Regulation No. 72/2005 concerning Villages and Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 6 of 2014 which is currently undergoing changes to Law No. 3/2024.

The term Village means land, spilled blood based on Sanskrit according to Koentjaraningrat. The definition of Village is also interpreted in the Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language (KBBI) which means the unity of an area inhabited by a number of families who have their own system of government (led by a Village Head) or a village is a group of houses outside the city which is a unity about the village (Jagokata, n.d.). Hanif Nurcholis in his book explains that the definition of a village is an area that is seen by a number of people who know each other, live together, have relatively similar customs, and have their own procedures in regulating their community life (Nurcholis, 2011). while according to R Bintarto explained the definition of Village as a geographical manifestation caused by local physiographic, social, economic, political, and cultural elements in relations and mutual influences with other regions (Bintarto, 1989). The unitary area of this village is filled by people who have been living for a long time and usually the village has a typical area and is different from the city area. This is because the village community whose high social spirit and solidarity provide its own color for people who live or guest in the village. Therefore, the privilege of the village is an important forum for the government to accommodate both village fittings and village funds. Village Government is stated in the general provisions in Law No. 6/2014 concerning Villages, namely Village Government is the implementation of government affairs and the interests of the local community in the government system of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

This law is democratic in nature because it contains rules that are considered to provide a way for the empowerment process for communities in the regions, including the village community. Because this Law also contains policies regarding villages that lead to the existence of broad Village Autonomy. Policies in the village government must also be democratic because they must coordinate with the community and must have a background of community interests. The homogeneous village community gives privileges to this area because the sense of unity and mutual respect for the people in the village is higher than the city. So the government states in the Law on Villages that Villages have autonomy to manage their own areas. With that autonomy, the village community has the flexibility to form their democracy.

Village autonomy is an original, unanimous, and complete autonomy and is not a gift from the Government and is stated in the Law as the source of the law (Widjaja, 2008). Julianlara explained in his book Village Reform, based on the lowest number, namely that village autonomy is not a sovereignty but the recognition of the right to manage its own household affairs on the basis of initiative from the community. Autonomy by itself can close the door to institutional

intervention on it, on the other hand, it is not justified by the intervention process that is all forced, sudden, and does not see the reality of the community (Juliantara, 2003).

The village that has this privilege was destroyed instantly when the village heads went down to demonstrate that their periodization should be extended to 9 years and re-elected within a time limit of 2 periods (KPPOD, n.d.). This is an index of a decrease in the level of trust in their leaders because there is a thirst for power. Especially when they are demonstrating closer to the General Election for Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates in February 2024. This gives a wild interpretation to the behavior of the village head who held a demonstration to demand changes to the Village Bill which is currently passed into Law No. 3/2024 concerning the Second amendment to Law No. 6/2014 concerning Villages. The statement of periodization acted upon by the Village Heads was granted which stated in the article in article 39 paragraphs (1) and (2) which states that the term of office of the village head shall be 8 years from the time this law was passed and can be elected for 2 consecutive periods or non-consecutively.

This political interest becomes illogical when this law is passed in whose interest and what is its effect when the 8 years of periodization is changed. So in this study, the reason for choosing this law to be the object of research is because this law must be investigated what the reason for the change is and whether there is a political approach to evil consensus related to this change.

The study examines the recent changes in the term limits for village heads under Law Number 3 of 2024, which amends Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages. This amendment has raised significant debate, as it alters the village head's term from 6 years with a maximum of 3 periods to 8 years with a maximum of 2 periods. While this change aims to address the demands of village heads for longer tenures, it lacks a clear legal justification in the academic foundations that informed its drafting. This shift in political law is controversial, as there is no strong legal rationale supporting the extension, leading to concerns about its potential impact on village governance, power dynamics, and overall democratic integrity at the local level.

Moreover, the modification of the term limit raises questions about the effectiveness of the village head's leadership and governance. Critics argue that although the extended tenure may provide village heads with more time to implement their programs, it might also increase the risk of political dynasties and create opportunities for the misuse of power. Given the strategic role of village heads in fostering community development and representing local interests, the change in tenure necessitates a deeper examination to ensure that it does not undermine democratic values and lead to political manipulation.

The urgency of this research stems from the potential implications of the term-limit change on the quality of governance in Indonesia's villages. As the smallest administrative unit, villages are crucial to the functioning of Indonesia's democratic system. The change in tenure could have significant effects on political stability, governance efficiency, and the distribution of power within local communities.

Understanding the rationale behind this amendment and assessing its impact on the leadership dynamics of village heads is crucial to ensuring that the legal reforms support democratic governance rather than entrench political interests.

Previous research on village governance and political law in Indonesia has highlighted the importance of term limits in maintaining a balanced power structure. Manan (2004) argues that term limits are essential for preventing the concentration of power within a single individual or political group, which could lead to authoritarian practices at the local level. Similarly, Widjaja (2008) emphasizes the importance of leadership renewal to avoid stagnation and ensure that governance reflects the evolving needs of the community. These studies suggest that term limits are necessary for maintaining democratic principles, particularly in the context of local governance.

In contrast, other studies have pointed to the potential benefits of extended leadership tenures, particularly in terms of allowing leaders to complete long-term projects and foster stability. Wibowo (2018) notes that in some contexts, longer terms for village heads can enhance continuity in leadership and help implement development plans more effectively. However, this perspective is often met with concerns about the risks of entrenched power, which could potentially lead to reduced accountability and citizen participation in governance.

Additionally, recent research on political dynamics at the local level has explored the intersection of political interests and legal reforms. Syaukani (2008) discusses how legal politics in Indonesia often reflects the influence of political elites, suggesting that changes to governance laws, including term limits, are sometimes driven more by political maneuvering than by the need for effective governance. This research underscores the importance of critically analyzing the motivations behind legal changes, particularly when they appear to favor the political class.

There is a significant gap in research regarding the impact of the 2024 amendment to the Village Law on the actual governance of villages in Indonesia. While previous studies have explored the theoretical implications of term limits in village governance, there is limited research on the practical outcomes of extending the tenure of village heads. This study aims to fill this gap by examining the reasons behind the law's amendment, its potential political motivations, and its effects on village head performance and community welfare. This gap in research is crucial for understanding whether the change will truly benefit local governance or if it is merely a political maneuver to consolidate power.

The novelty of this research lies in its critical evaluation of the recent legal changes concerning the term limits of village heads. While much research has been conducted on the legal and political implications of term limits in general, few studies have specifically addressed the recent amendment to the Village Law, especially in the context of its political and legal justifications. This study offers a fresh perspective by not only assessing the legal rationale behind the change but also exploring its potential long-term impacts on village governance, political dynamics, and community development.

The primary objective of this research is to analyze the rationale behind the change in the term limits of village heads under Law Number 3 of 2024.

Specifically, the study seeks to assess the legal, political, and social implications of extending the tenure of village heads from 6 years to 8 years, with a maximum of 2 periods. By examining the reasons behind this change and its potential impact on the effectiveness of village governance, the research aims to provide recommendations for improving the law to better align with democratic principles and enhance local governance.

This research will provide valuable insights for policymakers, legal practitioners, and academics by critically analyzing the recent changes to the term limits for village heads. The findings will help inform future legal reforms aimed at improving village governance, ensuring that such changes are grounded in strong legal reasoning and do not undermine democratic principles. Additionally, the research will contribute to the broader discussion of legal politics in Indonesia, shedding light on the interplay between law, politics, and local governance. By addressing the potential risks and benefits of the new law, the study will assist in developing more effective governance models at the village level, ultimately benefiting local communities and the nation as a whole.

### **RESEARCH METHODS**

In this study, the researcher employs a statute approach and a conceptual approach as the primary research methods. The statute approach focuses on analyzing and interpreting legal texts, specifically Law Number 3 of 2024 concerning the second amendment to Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages. This approach allows the researcher to examine the legal framework and the legislative intent behind the amendment. By reviewing the statutory texts and government regulations, the researcher aims to understand the legal justifications for the changes in the term limits of village heads and how these changes align with Indonesia's broader legal and constitutional framework.

The conceptual approach, on the other hand, is used to critically assess the theoretical and philosophical underpinnings of the legal changes. This approach helps the researcher explore the ideas and concepts behind the amendment, such as the notions of democracy, governance, power dynamics, and political interests. The conceptual approach allows for a deeper exploration of how these legal changes may impact village governance and whether they align with the principles of good governance, transparency, and accountability. By analyzing the amendment through this lens, the researcher can address broader questions about the role of law in shaping local governance structures.

Together, these two approaches provide a comprehensive framework for understanding the legal, political, and social implications of the amendment. The statute approach ensures a thorough legal analysis of the statutory texts and related regulations, while the conceptual approach offers a broader perspective on the theoretical and political motivations behind the law. This dual-methodological approach allows for a balanced and in-depth evaluation of the changes to the term limits of village heads and their potential impact on Indonesian village governance.



## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### **Ratio Legis On The Addition Of The Term Of Office Of The Village Head**

Villages have special autonomy rights regarding the authority of their positions and carry out their activities based on the Work Program Plan (RPK). The concept of autonomy given by the state through the Undnag-Undang is the right of the regions to manage their own regions as widely as possible. This right has a legitimate basis for the use of a country's decentralized system. The system includes the authority, institutional, financial and control of autonomy itself. In order for the implementation of autonomy to be carried out as a democratic unit that does not hinder, autonomy and freedom are needed. In fact, the essence of autonomy is said not to be excessive, so a good autonomy is independence, although it is not a form of freedom of an independent unit (Manan, 2004). Therefore, although the concept of autonomy provides a lesson that villages must be independent, the government must not mix the politicization of excess interests with the autonomy of the village itself.

The periodization of village heads, which is currently controversial, is actually the right of autonomy given by the central government to the village government as a form of the government's concern for democracy in the village. The periodization that became 8 years from the 5-year periodization of the village head is not a new thing in this era. During the old order period, the periodization of the position of village head was 8 years. This was conveyed in the explanation of Law No. 19/1965 as follows:

"Unlike in the past, the Head of the Desapraja is elected and appointed for a limited term, which is a maximum of 8 years. This term of office limitation has not been fully adjusted to the term of office of the Regional Head, considering that at the first level it is considered quite limited to 8 years. This limit is estimated to have fulfilled the will for each specific period of time to carry out rejuvenation and adjustment with the progress that occurs as a result of the implementation of the National Development Plan of the Planned Universe which also uses a period of 8 years."

From this explanation, the element of 8-year periodization is the will of the Implementation of National Development of the Planned Universe. The ratio legis of that period became certain and did not become publicly controversial. From the results of the election which according to the regulations and according to customary can be considered valid, which must be stated in the consideration of appointment, the candidate who receives the most absolute votes, namely the one who gets more than half of the votes cast, is appointed by the Regional Head of level I to become the Head of the Desapraja for a maximum term of office of 8 years.

As an Indonesian citizen, the basis for a citizen in carrying out any interest in this country must be based on the law in accordance with the Indonesian constitution as stated in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. But it is undeniable that in the implementation of the law in the State of Indonesia, it is very close that the law is the political interest of several groups to pass their will. In this case, the village head is a political position protected by law as the main source of law of the State of Indonesia until now. Legal politics is not a new thing

that we experience. Even since the old order, many laws have become political interests to protect officials.

Legal politics arises when law as an inherent element in the subsystem of society cannot run purely and neutrally, both in the process of its formation and the implementation of the law. Legal politics emerged as a middle ground that became an alternative law to the methodological impasse in understanding the complexity of the relationship between law and ethnicity, not law, which in this case is politics (Najicha, 2017). Legal politics is the basis for legal academics and legal practitioners to determine that this regulation will have legal consequences or consequences for political interests. So that legal politics is present to avoid the impasse of disputes in determining what is good for the law. Bram wrote a book on the politics of law (Bram, 2014), quoting from Hans Wehr that the politics of law etymologically is "*Politics of law*" from Dutch which is a combination of two words, namely "recht" and "politiek". In Indonesian *Law* interpreted as law. The ruling if in Arabic translation "*Hukm*" which means decisions, decrees, orders, government, power, punishment and others. In addition, Wirjono also explained that the word politics in the Dutch Dictionary written by Van Dear Tas contains the meaning of *policy*, if interpreted as a policy (*Policy*) which contains the meaning of a series of concepts and principles that are the outline and basis of the plan in the implementation of a single work, leadership and way of acting (Prodjodikoro, 1991).

A politics will not be far from policies that provide benefits and even provide opportunities to anyone. Because policy comes from wisdom which means good. Political policy law (*Legal Policy*) that are intended or have been implemented nationally by the government, including:

- a. legal development, both the formation of laws (*Rechtforming*) by updating legal materials that are considered foreign or not in accordance with the needs with the creation of laws needed to form legal products; and
- b. The implementation of existing legal provisions includes the affirmation of institutional functions and the development of law enforcement members (Muttaqien, 2010; Syaukani & Thohari, 2008).

A legal politics must be able to provide a middle ground as an effort to prevent an imbalance between law-making and law enforcement. A policy in Indonesia is very easy to form and establish as a legal basis. So it is not surprising that things that are not in accordance with the correct legal structure will be done *Judicial Review* at the Constitutional Court. This is because of the lack of full trust in the people's representatives, so the last aid is to ask for justice in the Judicial institution or commonly called the judiciary.

As the basis for legal politics, Law No. 3 of 2024 concerning the amendment of the Village Law becomes a summary or a real example of legal politics. The formation of villages is part of the government's legal politics contained in Law No. 6 of 2014 which is currently undergoing changes. It can be understood that in the formation of villages, legal politics is intended to provide effective management of village government in order to realize community welfare through improving the

quality of public services. Improving the quality of community empowerment and increasing community participation and participation has a great effect on national development (Harfi, 2016). As a legal ideal, the interests of village democracy must be given widely to its regulations and governance. This is intended because in the development from year to year the village has experienced changes either in its governance system or in its democratic system.

If we look at the article of changes that occurred in Law No. 3 of 2024 concerning Villages, we focus on changes from 6-year periodization with 3-period consequences and 8-year with 2-period consequences. If reported from the news, this extension provides a period of time for the elected village head to carry out the program and reduce conflicts after the election of the village head. If you look at the 6 years in office, it is still not enough because it is felt that after the election of the village head, it is difficult to interact with all villagers. This was caused by friction when running for the village head. So when they win, the loser will continue to give friction to the winning village head (Detik News, 2024). Seeing that the 9-year term is proportional for the village head in carrying out his functional duties as a leader in the village.

In the new order era of President Soeharto, the provisions on villages were stipulated in the Law as intended, namely Law No. 5/1979 concerning Village Government. The periodization of the position of village head in the law is regulated in accordance with the old regulation, which is 8 years and can be elected in the next election. The law explains that the periodization of villages is chosen for a maximum of 2 periods with a term of office of 8 years per period. The determination of the 8 (eight) year term of office is based on the consideration that the grace period is considered long enough for a Village Head to be able to carry out the tasks assigned to him properly. Viewed from the perspective of the sustainability of the work, the 8 (eight) years is sufficient to guarantee the avoidance of policy changes as a result of the replacement of Village Heads. The restriction to be re-elected only for 1 (one) term of office is with the intention of avoiding the possibility of a decrease in enthusiasm in organizing the government in the village. The interpretation written in the law clearly indicates that when it is less than periodization, the government is worried about overhauls that make the leadership of the village head not realized properly. After that, the new order period also changed the term of office of the village head to 10 years and could be elected for 1 next term. The term of office is not as well explained as the previous law which stated to avoid political conflicts in the reshuffles due to the election of a new village head.

The change happened again, namely during the time of the first female President Megawati Soekarnoputri who changed the law from the New Order for 10 years to 6 years of the term of office of the village head and could be re-elected for the next 1 term. This term of office was smaller during the term of Suharto's presidency. In his interpretation, it is not clear the discussion of the term of office of the village head from 10 years to 6 years with a maximum of 2 periods. The periodization is continued to 6 years with the consequence that a maximum of 3 leadership periods can be elected.



**Table 1. Term of office of the village head.**

<b>Law</b>	<b>Term of Tenure/Maximum Period</b>	<b>President</b>
Law No. 19/1965	8 Years/1 Term	Seokarno
Law No. 7/1979	8 Years/2 Periods	Seoharto
Law No. 22/1999	10 Years/2 Periods	BJ. Habibie
Law No. 32/2004	6 Years/2 Periods	Megawati
Law No. 6/2014	6 Years/3 Periods	Susilo Bambang Y
Law No. 3/2024	8 Years/2 Periods	Joko Widodo

Source: Prepared by the author

So judging from the table, the periodization from the presidential regime to the next president always changes with different views. So we see that this periodization is an important thing about how village politics is in Indonesia. It is common that political interests from one era to another are very different. This is because it is seen from the background of each president such as the Joko Widodo era whose approach to problems uses subtle things like Javanese in general. In contrast to Susilo Bambang Yudoyono who has a military background.

If you look at it from a legislative point of view in the academic manuscript as the basis for the preparation of changes in the term of office of the village head, there is no element of legal logic that is the basic principle in changing the periodization of the term of office of the village head for 9 years. The main reason for this change in periodization is the action of the village head's demands that occurred in the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia. It is important to periodize this position and be given restrictions so that there is no *Abuse of power* as a prevention of imbalance. According to Loogman, he wrote in his book which interpreted that the position as the social incarnation of the state is part of the government's functions or activities that are permanent or sustainable (Logemann, 1975). So in this case, the position is not only a government activity but any activity that concerns the systematics of community performance.

To provide a prevention of inequality, the position of a country is made a law that can regulate the position so that it can be harmonious and harmonious with each other. This provides a manifestation to place the law as a norm for the formation of positions that can regulate the acting to obey the rules and in accordance with the rules of the norm. According to Logemann, the period of change of position must be regulated and become the main position of a country. According to him, the position is a durable work scope system, so that when the position changes, the position still exists and is still functioning. To realize this, the law must regulate how the official is dismissed, either due to the expiration of the term of office and the delegation of office.

A person's position must be limited as a legal certainty in preventing the arbitrariness of a position holder in carrying out performance. The Village Law in regulating the term and term of office limits is to prevent the existence of village

heads and their devices from becoming *About power*: Although in essence, the village has the privilege of running the wheels of its movement. So it is not impossible that when the government gives a mandate to the village without a strong and binding legal source, it will happen *Stagnation* in the village itself. In the view of constitutionalism, the restriction of power is the main goal of the state in preventing the reduction of rights due to officials. For C.F. Strong, the constitution was meant to limit the arbitrariness of the government in exercising its authority, guarantee the rights that are ordered, and formulate the exercise of sovereign power (Strong, 1966).

Therefore, the limit of periodization according to Law No. 3 of 2024 as the second amendment to Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages does not give a belief to researchers that 8 years with the consequence of 2 periods is the right time. If you look at the limitations of government positions such as President and Vice President for 5 years and can be re-elected for a maximum period of 2 periods. So 8 years is still a question that has not been answered until now. This is the main reason researchers see this condition. The reasons behind the action are still not determinant, the researcher believes that there will be a 9-year periodization of the village head which is currently changed by the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia as the maker *Policy* Being 8 years with a period of 2 periods will have a positive impact on the performance of the Village Head and other village officials.

#### **Village Head Mass Action as an Aspiration to Change the Village Head's Financial and Election Politics**

Looking at political developments during the pre-election of the Presidential and Legislative Elections, there were many consolidations involving officials, especially the Village Head as the main object in building votes (CNN Indonesia, 2024). Looking at the event, it is clear that there are political indications that led to the Presidential Election which at that time was intensely intense due to the campaign period. Therefore, the latest amendment to the Village Law, Law No. 3/2024, is a bad alliance between the central government and the village government. At that time, all village heads gave their opinions regarding village funds and the Village Head Election was held after the Presidential and Legislative Elections. Political figures who at that time came many times such as the 5th Former President Megawati Soekarno Putri and the Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment who at that time was held directly by Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan.

Therefore, the change in the periodization of village heads must be a mature consideration for the government in order to provide benefits to the village. If you look at the latest law that slightly changes the article in the Village Law, that the change is minimal and there is no logical reason. This also happened because of the period action carried out by APDESI at the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia as a form of protest because of the short period of time when he was in office. The action also reaped pros and cons among the community. The main reason is that the action began as the General Election and Legislative Election events approached. This gave rise to negative public opinion on the action.

When seeing the news from Tempo, it emerged from community leaders who gave statements that were constructive criticism for the village itself. Karyono gave his opinion on Tempo news with several opinions that provide an understanding of the risks of Law No. 3 of 2024. Karyono highlighted three things. First, there is a considerable budget behind the position of village head. Second, the cost of each village head candidate is quite large and tends to increase. Third, there is the potential for the development of dynastic politics at the village level. Regarding dynastic politics, he said, it can occur at all levels of positions from the top to the bottom while power produces pleasure (Tempo, 2024). This is against the background that the number of village heads whose positions are indicative of dynasty. And large expenditures have a corruption-prone impact on village heads in the election of village heads.

The General Election is scheduled through the General Election Commission Regulation (PKPU) Number 3 of 2022 concerning the Stages and Schedule for the Implementation of the 2024 General Election. This schedule that has been determined is concrete because it has become a regulation and is for the community. The stages starting from registration to determining the winner of the general election of the Presidential and Legislative Elections are determined by the regulation. So that the public knows about how the election is going and the election schedules.

The period action attended by all village heads and village officials was very close to the general election so that it became a problem that was criticized by the public. So it was also influenced by the passage of the article that extended the position of village head from 6 years to 8 years. This proof is in the background during the national village day which gathered all village heads in Gelora Karno, which was attended by state officials, into the public spotlight. So that the determination of the extension of this article has become a public spotlight because of politics.

At that time, ahead of the political momentum that would roll, Joko Widodo as President of Indonesia gathered cadres in Serang, Banten (Metro TV News, 2024). The media stated that the visit was an ordinary visit that was his duty as President to greet his people. So the visit was not at all for the political interest of winning for one candidate in the Presidential election. At that time as President, Joko Widodo agreed that his son, Gibran Rakabuming, who was the spouse of Prabowo Subianto, was running for Vice President. So the political indication that it became a public issue became true because it saw that the president was the father of Gibran Rakabuming. So when the action in the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia is a problem that is never resolved because it is an issue thrown at President Joko Widodo.

The village head is the spearhead in village development where in his leadership the village head is able to coordinate or become a leader in answering public representation in all interests, both village committees and the wider community, a village head is ideally able to influence others in his leadership so that it is hoped that the person he leads can have an impact on village development

(Wibowo, 2018). A village chief becomes the mouthpiece of the war drum when his village experiences something dangerous. Therefore, ideally, the village must be free from practical political interference from parties that have practical interests. This is clearly stated in the requirements to become a village head in Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages. This is conveyed in the mandate of the law in article 29 letter g which states that the village head must not be an administrator of a political party.

This article becomes a wild interpretation when the village head is affiliated with a political party which makes the village head not neutral in carrying out his duties. That is what gives the village head a hot ball because after all, when it comes to leading a village, it must have good politics. But when in the above verse there needs to be an interpretation that provides an explanation related to it. Politics is important in increasing the electability of a village head, but when looking at the article, the correct interpretation is all practical political actions of a certain party that are obstacles to the village head's program in providing services to the community.

The village head as the highest leader in the village must have high integrity as an example to the village community. Therefore, when the village head is contaminated with party interests, then *Image* From a village head will be ugly in the community. Highlighting the role of the village head in facilitating community participation, the village head has in-depth knowledge and understanding of the needs and aspirations of the local community. They can act as a liaison between the government and the community, facilitate dialogue and consultation, and coordinate participatory activities. However, several factors can influence the involvement of village heads, such as communication skills, understanding of participation, institutional support, and power dynamics at the village level (Rifkin, 2014). So that the image of the village head must have integrity as a leader.

Village Funds are a representation of state finance that is given specifically for Village work programs. Village Finance is all the rights and obligations of the Village that can be assessed with money and everything in the form of money and goods related to the implementation of the Village's rights and obligations. The allocation of village funds is used as a welfare program for the village community and also as an effort to promote the village to become independent. Village funds are often a tempting object for village officials throughout Indonesia. So with that, many village funds are not properly channeled into the program. So that the transparency of the use of village funds is important as an effort to open up to the public and accountability of village officials in using their budgets.

Villages as a representation of state democracy must make a good contribution. The Village Fund as one of the sources of village income has a strategic role in supporting village development. Some of the previous research includes; concluding that the use of Village Fund Allocation (ADD) can finance village government programs and effectively improve the rural economy (Sukesi, 2007). Village incentives provided by the state give a breath of fresh air to the village. So that when village funds are given to the state, they should provide a motivational boost in building villages. So the village will be an example of the State's success in building its accountability system.

The reality of this is that village funds have many misappropriations in practice. So that village funds are very vulnerable as an object of corruption for the village head and village officials in running the work wheel of the village. Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW) explained that the corruption sector in village governments in 2023 reached 187 cases, consisting of 108 cases of government, 103 cases of utilities, and 65 cases of banking (Saptohutomo, 2024). With that, village funds should be important to regulate how the mechanism of the openness system for village funds can be open to the community. So that the suspicion will not arise in the village community.

### CONCLUSION

The periodization of the position of the village head is a political matter in determining the term of office. So that in the stipulation of Law No. 3 of 2024 concerning the Second Amendment to Law No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages. The legis ratio of the periodization of the 8-year term of office of the village head is not based on science. Because in this periodization there is no convincing interpretation and provision for the author. So that in the 8-year term of office with the consequence of a period of 2 elections, it must have a good scientific formulation. When looking at the article, we can see the basis that everyone believes is that the term of office of the village is returned by the maker *of Public Policy*, namely the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia as the main aspect of the decision and reviewer of the regulation.

It was also influenced by legal politics because of the interests of parties that at that time wanted to control the village community for the sake of winning votes. This is also proven by the period of action carried out during the political campaign period. At that time, political times were hot and sensitive to anything done by the government. Village funds as a refreshment to village funds provide a definite step for village programs so that village budget management is closely related to the reason behind the ratification of Law No. 3/2024 concerning the second amendment to Law No. 6/2014 concerning Villages.



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