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Parliamentary Behavior in the Formation of Local Regulations in Central Maluku

Johan Tehuayo^a, Syaifulrijal Mahulauw^a, Fatima Suatrat^a

Correspondence Email: tehuayojohan@gmail.com

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Abstract: This study, entitled 'Analysis of Parliamentary Behavior in the Formation of Local Regulations in Central Maluku Regency,' employs a descriptive qualitative method to describe the behavior of DPRD members in their efforts to increase votes and the process of forming local regulations. The research informants consisted of the chair and members of Commission 2, Commission 4, and the Regional Regulation Discussion Agency of the Central Maluku DPRD. This study draws on theories of political behavior, representative democracy, political parties, representative parliaments, legislative elections, and government policy. The results of the study show that candidates actively engage in political interaction with the community through various social and economic programs, such as social assistance, youth empowerment, and improvement of educational facilities, thereby gaining significant support and seats in the DPRD. The deliberation process for local regulations proceeded in accordance with the procedures stipulated by the Minister of Home Affairs Regulation, with maximum public participation through seminars involving various stakeholders from the sub-districts. The resulting local regulations have strong legal force and a positive impact on the community, the business world, and an increase in Local Own-Source Revenue. The DPRD's supervision of the implementation of local regulations is carried out effectively and to the maximum extent possible, supporting the successful implementation of various local regulations in Central Maluku.

^a Government Departement, Faculty of Social and Political Science, University of Pattimura, Indonesia

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1 Introduction

The general election held in Indonesia is a simultaneous and direct election system, which will be held in 2024, namely the direct election of the president and vice president and members of parliament at the national level (DPR RI and DPD RI), as well as members of parliament at the local level (DPRD Provinsi and DPRD Regency/City). Meanwhile, the election of regional heads and deputy regional heads will be held in November 2024. The presidential and vice presidential elections, as well as the parliamentary elections held on February 14, 2024, showed that the level of political participation among the public, according to the Chair of the General Elections Commission of the Republic of Indonesia, had increased significantly to 85%, compared to the previous elections in 2019, where the level of political participation among the public reached 75%. In addition, the elections organized by the KPU were carried out democratically, safely, peacefully, honestly, and fairly. They were also carried out transparently and accountably, resulting in the election of leaders and representatives who reflect the will of the people.

According to the Indonesian General Election Commission (KPU RI) (in Gogel 2024), the election process held in 2024 has resulted in eight political forces dominating the national parliament, namely the PDIP with the most votes/seats at 16%, followed by the Golkar Party with 14%, Gerindra with 13%, and PKB with 10%. Nasdem with 9%, PKS with 8%, PAN with 7%, and the Democratic Party with 6%. Meanwhile, the political parties that failed to reach the parliamentary threshold were the United Development Party (PPP), the Hanura Party, and all new political parties registered as participants in the 2024 elections. In political reality, the decline in votes for the PPP and Hanura, as well as new political parties in the 2024 legislative elections, was influenced by various factors, including, first, the political leadership of each political party, which was less influential in mobilizing the party's institutional structure, especially in influencing the community. Second, human resources, especially party elites, have little influence on increasing votes. Third, political information, which is related to the management of political issues that arise in society. Fourth, the adequate use of information technology in political campaigns, and fifth, organizational management in influencing the political behavior of the public.

Some parties experienced an increase in the number of votes/seats, while others experienced a decrease in the number of votes/seats. The PDIP experienced an increase in the number of votes and seats in the Provincial DPRD, while Golkar experienced a decrease in the number of votes and seats, and PAN experienced an increase in the number of votes and seats in the Provincial DPRD and DPR RI. PKS experienced an increase in the number of votes and seats and managed to retain its seats in the DPR RI, while Gerindra and PDIP also maintained their power in the national parliament. The success of the new digital democracy and election system implemented in 2024 is expected to have an impact on the performance of government institutions in Indonesia, especially members of parliament in carrying out their various political functions. This is because public perception of political parties and legislative institutions in Indonesia has shown a significant decline. Therefore, the new digital election process that took place on February 14, 2024, can have an impact on increasing the accountability of both national and local parliament members. In addition, it can bring in national and local parliamentarians who have adequate capacity and competence, as well as sufficient political and moral integrity, so that they are not trapped or influenced by acts of abuse of power and authority, such as the strengthening of corruption, collusion, and nepotism, which are very detrimental to the country and hinder development in Indonesia.

At the local level, various problems have tended to arise among local parliament members, particularly in relation to discussions of the regional budget with governments in various regions. Among these issues are the continuing prevalence of corruption among DPRD members and regional governments in various regencies and cities, the strengthening of informal political processes whereby private parties in political lobbying to obtain regional development projects, and the involvement of

DPRD members with interest groups. This tendency still often occurs in the context of political dynamics and dialectics among political institutions at the local level. In this context, the digital elections held in 2024 are also expected to have an impact on the digitization of both local and national parliaments in carrying out their various political functions, or in order to improve parliamentary performance.

The results of the legislative elections in Central Maluku Regency have shown that there has been an increase in the number of seats for the PDIP, namely 5 seats, which is an increase compared to the 2019 election results. The same is true for the National Democratic Party (Nasdem), which obtained 3 seats, an increase from the previous election, while PAN won 4 seats, with no increase, Gerindra won 5 seats, PKB won 4 seats, Demokrat won 4 seats, PKS won 5 seats, Golkar won 4 seats, and PPP won 1 seat. New political parties won the following number of seats: Perindo 2 seats, PSI 1 seat, Hanura 1 seat, and Gelora 1 seat. The fragmentation of political power is evident in the formation of various factions in parliament, which are distributed across various commissions, thereby influencing the implementation of political functions by parliament. This reality will be seen in the process of discussing various regional regulations, the process of discussing the regional budget (APBD), and also in relation to the implementation of political oversight of the local executive. Politically, in relation to the implementation of legislative and budgetary functions, the process of discussing regional regulations and the APBD involves not only the parliament but also the executive. (KPU D Malteng Dalam Gogel, 2024).

Local executives have the authority to propose draft regional regulations, which are then discussed with the Regional Representative Council (DPRD). Meanwhile, the council also has the authority to propose draft regional regulations, which are then discussed with local executives. Meanwhile, the local executive has sole authority over the draft regional budget (APBD), while the DPRD has the authority to supervise the implementation of the APBD by the local government, both in terms of its discussion and implementation. In relation to the discussion of various regional regulations and the APBD, it is interesting to examine or analyze the behavior of the parliament in the political decision-making process, related to the regulation and resolution of various public problems that exist in society.

According to Dede Marians and Carolina Pascarina, the legislative process is defined as the process of making laws in a national context and, in a local context, as the making of regional regulations or policies. Therefore, the authority to legislate is not only held by the local parliament (DPRD) but also by other institutions, such as the executive (regional heads and their apparatus) and the judiciary. However, the focus of studies on regional legislation generally revolves around the relationship between the executive and the legislature (DPRD) in the formulation of regional regulations as a product of legislation that concerns the public interest. In order to respond to various developments in the process of implementing regional legislative functions, a number of changes have been made, such as in terms of actors, processes, substance, legal aspects, and practical aspects. However, of all these aspects, the most strategic point is the aspect of actors or legislators. This assumption is also supported by empirical evidence of the continuing dominance of the executive in the formulation of policy drafts. On the other hand, the strengthening of the DPRD's rights also places the DPRD in a very strategic position in approving or rejecting a policy draft. These two institutions play a very important role in policy-making in the regions. Changes in the legislators' node enable legislators to carry out the legislative process and produce more democratic legislative products.

Various problems that tend to be faced on the legislative side include: first, the structure of the DPRD institution, which leads to oligarchy among DPRD leaders. DPRD leaders play a very important role in the legislative process, especially in approving or rejecting draft regional regulations. Second, the mechanism of relations between DPRD members and between the executive and legislative branches during the legislative process. Internal political dynamics within the DPRD are often dominated by factions as political representatives, so that in the policy-making process, bargaining often occurs between factions for the interests of the factions rather than for the interests of the

community. Third, the quality of DPRD members' resources related to their ability to carry out parliamentary functions, such as legislation, oversight, and budgeting (Pascarin, 2008). Fourth, in practice, the representative model places the DPRD as representatives of political parties rather than representatives of the people. The behavior of the parliament in Central Maluku shows that the process of forming various regional regulations is carried out in accordance with the various procedures and mechanisms that apply in Central Maluku, namely in accordance with the Minister of Home Affairs Regulation. In the context of discussing various regional regulations, public participation from various subdistricts in Central Maluku is involved. In addition, various regional regulations can be implemented well and have an impact on the lives of the local community.

According to David Easton (1996), an individual's political behavior is fundamental and important data for a behavioral approach to politics (David E. Apter, 1996). This does not mean that the behavioral approach focuses only on individuals, but also on small groups, organizations, communities, elites, mass movements, or national societies, which are also the focus of attention and behavioral events. Structure, function, and process can be categorized for analyzing political behavior. According to Miftha Thoha (2002) (in Mulyawan, 2016), behavior is essentially a function of the interaction between an individual and their environment, where a person's behavior is not only determined by themselves, but also by the extent of their interaction with their environment (Mulyawan, 2016). Meanwhile, Nadrh (in Dely Mustafa, 2014) states that behavior is the operationalization and actualization of an individual's or group's attitude towards a situation and environmental conditions in society, nature, technology, and organizations. The desired result of every behavior is performance. According to Sari (2006), behavior is related to performance, namely behavior directly related to work tasks that need to be carried out in order to achieve the objectives of those tasks (Eliana Sari, 2006). Behavior is a function of individual, organizational, and psychological variables. Behavior produces work, is unique to each person, and the process underlying it is the same for everyone. In addition, the political behavior of the elite is in the interaction between the government and the community, between government institutions, and between groups and individuals in the community in the context of the process of making, implementing, and enforcing political decisions, which is basically political behavior (Antonius Sitepu, 2012).

According to Andrew Heywood (2024), a guardian is someone who acts on behalf of another person based on their superior knowledge, education, or experience. A classic expression of representation as guardianship is found in a speech by Edmond Burke (in Heywood 2024) before voters in Bristol in 1774: "You will elect a member of the Bristol Society. When you have elected him, he is no longer a member of the Bristol Society, but he is a member of parliament, your representative. He not only provides his diligence and craftsmanship, but also his wisdom, and he would be guilty if he sacrificed his wisdom by simply following your opinions" (Andrew Heywood, 2014). Simply put, the principle of representation describes the position of representatives as servants of the people and gives them a responsibility to act in the interests of those who elected them. When democracy in the classical sense, namely direct participation by the people, is no longer practiced, the principle of representation is the closest thing to the principle of government by the people.

The formulation of regional regulations (Perda) is one of the strategic functions of regional parliaments in carrying out their legislative role. However, in the context of Central Maluku Regency, the process of formulating Perda often faces various obstacles stemming from the behavior of parliament members. Ineffective behavior, such as low active participation, the influence of certain political interests, and a lack of coordination and communication among parliament members, has the potential to hamper the legislative process and reduce the quality of the resulting legal products. This condition is exacerbated by local political dynamics and unique socio-cultural factors in the region, which have not been studied in depth in the context of parliamentary behavior. In addition, there are indications of a mismatch between the results of the local regulations and the needs and aspirations of the people of Central Maluku, which raises doubts about the responsiveness and accountability of the parliament in the legislative process. This raises important questions about the mechanisms and

factors that influence parliamentary behavior in the formation of local regulations in the region. Therefore, this study aims to identify parliamentary behavior and the factors that influence it in the formation of local regulations, with the goal of providing recommendations to improve the quality of legislation and better regional governance.

Research trends on parliamentary behavior in the formation of local regulations (Perda) show an increased focus on the effectiveness of legislative functions at the regional level. Various studies highlight the role of DPRD members in carrying out legislative functions, particularly in the process of drafting and ratifying Perda. Previous studies reveal that although legislative members have a relatively good understanding of the legislative mechanism, there are still obstacles in the implementation of this function, which has an impact on the low number and quality of initiative Perda produced. This condition shows a gap between legislative theory and practice in the field, mainly influenced by political dynamics and local culture. In addition to the technical aspects of legislation, research trends also underline the importance of external factors such as budget transparency and parliamentary oversight in improving the quality of legislative performance. Related studies confirm that suboptimal management of regional assets and a lack of integration of local socio-cultural values can hamper the effectiveness of oversight and legislative implementation. In Central Maluku, this is relevant given the strong social and cultural characteristics that influence parliamentary behavior and the process of forming local regulations. Research examining the revision of local regulations in Central Maluku shows the urgency of adapting legislative mechanisms to be more responsive to the local context, especially in terms of respect for customs and traditional governance.

Thus, current research trends tend to lean toward a multidimensional approach that not only assesses parliamentary behavior from a formal institutional perspective but also considers cultural, social, and political factors that influence the dynamics of legislation in the regions. Recent studies seek to delve deeper into the internal mechanisms of parliament, interactions between stakeholders, and the obstacles faced in formulating high-quality and effective local regulations. This approach is expected to produce more comprehensive recommendations for enhancing the role of parliament in formulating regional regulations that are in line with the aspirations and needs of the people of Central Maluku.

2 Research Methods

This study uses a descriptive qualitative method as its main approach. According to Sugiyono (2016), the descriptive qualitative method is very suitable when the research problem is still unclear or vague. This method serves to understand the meaning hidden behind the data that is explicitly visible. Often, social phenomena cannot be fully understood only through what individuals say or do, so an approach is needed that can explore complex social interactions and their surrounding contexts (Sugiyono, 2016). Qualitative methods allow researchers to explore social interactions by participating directly and conducting in-depth interviews with the social actors who are the focus of the research. Thus, the understanding gained is not only based on superficial observations but also supported by interpretations of the experiences and meanings conveyed by the informants. In the study entitled "Analysis of Local Parliamentary Behavior in the Formation of Regional Regulations in the Central Maluku Regency DPRD," the informants selected represented various factions in the DPRD, namely the Chair of Commission 2 from the PKS faction, a member of Commission 2 from the Golkar faction, a member of Commission 2 from the PDIP faction, a member of Commission 4 from the Nasdem faction, a member of Commission 4 from the PAN faction, and the Chair of the Regional Regulation Discussion Agency.

The data collection techniques in this study involved several methods, namely interviews, observation, documentation, and triangulation, to ensure data validity. The interview process was conducted by recording each answer given by the respondents to the questions asked by the researcher. This approach allowed the researcher to listen carefully to the interviewees' answers, observe their expressions and behavior during the interview, and collect complete and accurate data.

According to Nasir (2003), interviews are a data collection technique in which the interviewer, whether a researcher or an appointed party, directly asks questions to the informant in order to obtain the necessary information (Nasir, 2003). By using structured interview guidelines, researchers can direct the discussion to suit the focus of the research and explore in-depth information from the informants' perspectives. This technique is very important in qualitative research to understand social reality comprehensively and contextually.

3 Results and Discussion

Political Strategies of Legislative Candidates in Increasing Votes

The strategy implemented by legislative candidates in the Central Maluku Regency elections focused primarily on a social approach to the voting public. As members of the Regional Representative Council who had served two terms, they had a responsibility to fight for the aspirations and interests of constituents in their electoral district, which consisted of four subdistricts: West North Seram, East North Seram, North Seram Kobi, and North Seram, with a total of 43 villages. This process of interaction with the community is carried out intensively by making direct visits on foot for up to 30 km in mountainous areas. Although the number of voters encountered is not large in quantitative terms, qualitatively, they have the same right to public services from the government (Results of an interview with Ahmad). In addition, candidates also established cooperation with various parties, including local NGOs, in implementing political programs ahead of the 2024 elections. These programs included training for the younger generation, services for community groups, social assistance for the poor, and economic and agricultural empowerment in mountainous areas, which had been implemented since 2020. The aim of these programs is to ensure that the aspirations of the community are properly accommodated and optimally realized (Interview with Azlan).

The development of the communities around Mount Binaya and Mount Manusela still shows conditions of isolation and underdevelopment in various aspects of life, such as economy, social, culture, education, and health. This condition is an empirical fact that reflects the various challenges faced by the local community. In an effort to overcome these problems, various programs are aimed at improving the quality of education, for example, by encouraging local governments to distribute teaching staff, providing assistance to repair damaged school buildings, and providing social assistance to students and the community. Empowerment programs for the younger generation are also an important focus. The implementation of these programs has proven to have an impact on increasing the number of votes for the candidate concerned, namely 1,203 votes or one seat in the Central Maluku Regional Representative Council. In addition, in the context of physical development, handling disasters such as flash floods in Maraina, which caused damage to houses and school buildings, has become a major concern. The reconstruction of school buildings with a budget of around 600 million rupiah was successfully achieved through joint efforts between the local government and the community (Results of an interview with Ahmad Azlan).

Although the community in this region still lives a relatively traditional lifestyle and has limited political knowledge, this does not hinder changes in voter behavior, which now prioritizes a rational approach in selecting candidates. Contrary to the assumption that voters are still heavily influenced by traditional approaches, in reality, they assess candidates based on the implementation of physical and non-physical development programs that have a tangible and positive impact on the community. This trend reflects that the community pays more attention to the results and success of the programs implemented by candidates than to their background or political identity (Results of an interview with Ahmad Azlan). The various political activities carried out by candidates include the use of aspiration funds to help the community in various fields, such as the construction and renovation of school buildings, the provision of social assistance, and establishing cooperation with local NGOs and youth groups to implement empowerment and outreach programs. In addition, candidates are also active in fighting for the aspirations of communities affected by disasters, such as floods, to obtain assistance

and support from local governments. These various programs and activities have had a significant influence on the political support of the community in the electoral district, resulting in the successful winning of one seat in the Central Maluku Regional Representative Council.

The social approach strategy implemented by legislative candidates in Central Maluku Regency, particularly through direct interaction with communities in large and hard-to-reach electoral districts, has proven effective in fighting for the aspirations and interests of constituents. Although the number of voters met is limited in terms of quantity, the inclusive qualitative approach provides equal space for all citizens to obtain public services. The implementation of various political programs, including youth training, social assistance, and economic and agricultural empowerment in mountainous areas, has been a key factor in building community political support. This is reflected in increased votes and success in winning seats in the Central Maluku DPRD. Communities that still live in isolated socio-economic conditions tend to vote based on the tangible results of physical and non-physical development programs that directly benefit them, rather than solely on the political background of the candidates. Therefore, the success of candidates in the elections in this region is highly dependent on their ability to implement programs that are responsive to the needs of the community and to build synergy with various parties, including local NGOs and youth groups. This approach, which focuses on concrete actions and public service, is the key to winning the trust and political support of the community in Central Maluku.

Procedures and Mechanisms for Formulating Local Regulations

The process of forming Regional Regulations (Perda) in Central Maluku goes through two main mechanisms, namely initiatives from the regional government and the right of initiative from members of the Regional Representative Council (DPRD). Draft regional regulations originating from the regional government will be discussed with the DPRD through a Plenary Meeting. Similarly, regional regulations proposed by members of the DPRD are also discussed in the same forum. Every year, a Plenary Meeting is routinely held between the local government and the DPRD to discuss various draft regional regulations. The discussion of this Perda is facilitated by the Regional Regulation Communication Agency (Bakom Perda), which invites DPRD members to discuss the draft Perda in a plenary meeting. Prior to these discussions, draft local regulations are first consulted with the local government's Legal Bureau and involve the Ministry of Law and Human Rights at the provincial level.

So far, 30 regional regulations have been discussed and passed, including regional regulations on regional taxes and distribution, regional assets, and regional finances. The discussion of these regional regulations follows the direction of Permendagri Number 80, which aims to regulate regional financial management and revise regional regulations that are no longer relevant to the dynamics of the development of the interests of the local government and the people of Central Maluku. One important local regulation is the establishment of the Banda Island Subdistrict, which was led by the DPRD Special Committee and the Chair of Commission 2, Hasan Alkatiri. Prior to a comprehensive discussion of the academic paper, consultations were held with the Regional Government Legal Bureau, followed by a discussion in a Plenary Meeting that resulted in the approval of the Banda Island Subdistrict, which will be implemented in February 2024. Thus, it can be concluded that the process of formulating and approving various local regulations in the Central Maluku DPRD is effective, transparent, and accountable. This process also involves the political participation of the community, which contributes significantly to social life, local government, and the private sector in the Central Maluku region (based on an interview with Hasan Alkatiri).

The process of drafting local regulations (Perda) in the Central Maluku DPRD goes through two main mechanisms, namely initiatives from the local government and the initiative rights of DPRD members, both of which are routinely discussed in Plenary Meetings facilitated by the Local Regulation Communication Agency (Bakom Perda). Prior to discussion, draft Perda are first consulted with the local government's Legal Bureau and the Ministry of Law and Human Rights at the provincial level to

ensure legal compliance. Since this mechanism was implemented, 30 Perda products, including those related to taxes, assets, and regional finances, have been passed, with reference to Permendagri Number 80 guidelines to adjust regulations to the developing needs of the region and the community. The leadership of the DPRD, particularly through the Special Committee chaired by Commission 2 Chair Hasan Alkatiri, played a significant role in the enactment of important local regulations, such as the establishment of the Banda Island District, which has been implemented since February 2024. Overall, the mechanism for forming local regulations in Central Maluku is effective, transparent, and accountable, involving political participation from the community, which has a significant impact on social life, governance, and the private sector in the region. The research findings are in line with the findings of Hainadri (2021), that a regional government system has a strong formal legal basis (Hainadri, 2021), the lack of communication and quality human resources (Jispar, 2020), the principles of agreement and freedom of contract (Rokilah & Sulasno, 2021), and weak human resources and infrastructure for enforcing regional regulations (Ghafur, 2018).

Public Participation in Local Regulation Discussions

During the discussion stage of Regional Regulations (Perda), before they are passed by the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and the regional government, the community is involved through various community leaders, youth leaders, traditional leaders, and other stakeholders to ensure that the Regional Regulations do not conflict with the prevailing social, cultural, economic, and political conditions. This process is carried out through public trials in the form of seminars involving stakeholders from several sub-districts. However, budget constraints mean that not all sub-districts can be involved, with only between seven and nine sub-districts usually being sampled. These discussions are organized by the Regional Regulation Discussion Agency (Bapemperda) to ensure they are effective and maximized. However, the limited scope of participation often leads to resistance from subdistricts that are not involved when the Perda is socialized, giving rise to questions and criticism of the DPRD (results of interviews with Marlon). In the discussion of the regional regulation related to taxes and distribution, for example, the sub-district involved was Masohi City, which has a market, lodging, and various economic facilities that are the center of aspirations related to the substance of the regional regulation. However, when the Perda was socialized in other subdistricts, such as North Seram, objections arose because they were not involved in the discussion process, which also caused problems in the implementation of public testing and community participation in the Central Maluku DPRD (Interview with Marlon). For local regulations on sub-district expansion, such as Banda Island and Teluk Dalam Sub-districts, the stakeholders invited were only from the relevant areas, as the interests of these local regulations were more specific and local. However, the Teluk Dalam District expansion local regulation has not been implemented because various factors are still being considered, especially the impact of the North Seram Raya Regency expansion issue, which could affect local revenue (Interview with Ali Lessy, 2024).

Based on the respondents' explanations, it can be concluded that public participation is an important aspect in the formation of local regulations in the Central Maluku Regency DPRD and has a significant influence on the substance of the local regulations being discussed. However, stakeholder involvement is adjusted to the substance of the local regulations so that not all subdistricts are included, mainly due to budget constraints. Nevertheless, these constraints have led to obstacles in the form of resistance from communities in areas that were not involved in the dissemination of local regulations, which has become a challenge for the DPRD in ensuring optimal and inclusive public participation. The findings reinforce the opinion of Martono, et al (2020), that local regulations must be adapted to the dynamic conditions of the community (Martono et al., 2020), that there must be mutual agreement on village regulations (Bakarbessy, 2017), and that the formulation of legislation must accommodate the needs of the community (Sanih et al., 2024) the resulting regulations are able to absorb various aspirations and interests of the community (Karyadin & Azizah, 2023), a positive role in

influencing the formulation of development programs (Lessy et al., 2021), an active role in the formation of regional regulations (Ibrahim et al., 2020), a lack of understanding among participating actors regarding the substance of the regional regulation draft being discussed, resulting in it being ineffective, and limited participation of constituent actors (Arifin, 2019).

Substance and Implementation of Local Regulations

The process of discussing regional regulations governing natural resource management over the past 10 years has seen the Malteng DPRD never discuss regional regulations on natural resource management, as this is not our domain or locus; it remains the authority of the provincial DPRD, so we only implement regional regulations prepared by the Provincial DPRD. For example, the Non-Profit Regulation and the Quarrying Regulation are not within our authority, so the local government only implements them, and the DPRD only supervises them. For example, we want to initiate a regulation on the pricing of plantation products such as nutmeg and coconut, but the Provincial DPRD says that this is the authority of province. For example, the prices of cloves, nutmeg, coconuts, etc., decline with each harvest. We want to discuss a local regulation related to price protection, because that is the domain of Commission 2. We consulted with the legal bureau, which said that it is the authority of the province (based on an interview with Hasan Alkatiri).

Meanwhile, commodity prices from agricultural and plantation production should be the authority of the regency, because they are more knowledgeable about agricultural and plantation issues in the regency, so they have the authority to protect the prices of agricultural and plantation products, so that the local community in the regency obtains adequate income, in order to improve the welfare of the local community. However, on the other hand, the DPRD must also follow existing regulations. The DPRD cannot simply make regional regulations as it pleases, but must comply with various existing laws and regulations. (results of an interview with Hasan Alakatiri) Meanwhile, regarding ceramic sand mining, for example, in Haya, Commission 3 actually wanted to protect the sand mine in Haya by issuing a regional regulation, but the legal bureau prohibited it because it is under the jurisdiction of the province. For example, the price of mineral sand is cheaper than building sand. We want to protect the natural resources owned by the regency, but that is the authority of the province, so we propose that the discussion of regional regulations regarding natural resources must involve the regions that have these natural resources. As explained by the respondent, Commission 2 Chair Hasan Alkatiri, and three other commission members: "So, in relation to the authority of the Malteng district DPRD in the field of agriculture and plantations, it is protection of land management, for example, plantations, whether they are converted into rice fields, or agricultural land converted into rice fields for planting rice, etc. they must obtain a permit from the district government. So the district only protects the land of the local community, so that land management is in accordance with the interests of the community. The local government only provides protection to the community in the use of their land." (results of an interview with Hasan Alkatiri). Meanwhile, the Tourism Office implements various programs for tourist destinations. There are tourist areas that are ready for use, for example, various facilities and infrastructure are ready for use, and there are creative economic groups, so the tourism office only promotes them to increase the number of tourists visiting tourist areas. There are also tourist areas that still need to be developed, requiring the provision of adequate facilities and infrastructure, facilities within the tourist location, and thirdly, tourism promotion. This is done by the tourism office in order to attract local, national, and even global tourists." (Interview with Ahmad Azlan).

In the context of this tourism promotion, it is necessary to hold a motorcycle race in Malteng. The aim of this tournament is to promote tourist areas in Malteng because the motorcycle race will attract various racers from different regions, especially from various districts, and also from the city of Ambon. Their presence will have an impact on various accommodations and increase visits to tourist areas in Malteng. (results of an interview with Ahmad Azlan). Meanwhile, "The local regulation related

to tourism has just been discussed and approved, namely the Master Plan for Tourism Development, which will be implemented. In this local regulation, the goal is to form zones for the division of tourist areas, so in North Seram, we will focus on Sawai and Paseneana. So there are four zones. Tourism is indeed focused on various tourist areas in Malteng, such as Wahai, Lang, Morela, and Wakal. In Wakal, there is a mandi safar (traditional bath), and the commission encourages the tourism office to use the budget effectively for the development of tourist areas in Malteng." (Interview with Subhan Fatah).

According to Ahmad Azlan, the implementation of development in the field of education is indeed intended for departmental operations and also for routine expenses, etc. Meanwhile, various additional programs can also come from aspiration funds and are also adjusted to the vision and mission of the Regional Head, for example, in the field of Education, such as physical and non-physical development, etc. This also relates to, for example, school buildings that are slightly damaged or severely damaged, or require new building construction, etc. While non-physical development programs include, for example, smart cards, scholarships for poor students, and various other non-physical programs." (interview with Ahmad Azlan). Regarding development programs in sub-districts and villages, it is indeed evident that there are still many issues that need to be resolved. In fact, the implementation of the Regional Budget is not yet optimal because there is still a deficit, meaning the budget set is in accordance with the aspirations and development interests for the short, medium, and long term. However, in the short term, there are still problems, for example, the distribution of social assistance has not been carried out well. (Interview with Ahmad and Subhan).

Various regional regulation products implemented in society bring about positive changes or impacts on people's lives. For example, the regional regulation on capital participation has a positive impact on people's lives, as there is an increase in the number of customers. For instance, the number of customers increased from 230 to 120,000. So, in reality, the implementation of various regional regulations has a positive impact on the lives of the community and local government. For example, the regulation on taxes and distribution that will be implemented in the future is expected to have a positive impact on increasing local revenue. Because so far, local revenue from the tax aspect is only 30 billion, with this tax and distribution regulation, if implemented to the maximum, local revenue will increase to 60 – 70 billion." (Interview with Hasan Akkatiri).

The Central Maluku Regency DPRD does not yet have the authority to discuss regional regulations related to natural resource management because this falls under the purview of the provincial DPRD. Therefore, the regency's focus is more on implementing and overseeing the products of provincial regional regulations. Nevertheless, the district DPRD plays an important role in protecting the use of agricultural and plantation land in accordance with the interests of the local community through land use regulations. In the tourism sector, the Central Maluku Tourism Office is actively developing tourism destinations by providing facilities, promotions, and event activities to attract tourists, supported by the Regional Regulation on the Tourism Development Master Plan, which regulates the zoning of tourism areas. In the field of education, physical and non-physical development programs are implemented with funding from the Regional Budget and aspirational funds, although budget realization has not been optimal, resulting in some programs not being fully realized. The implementation of various regional regulations, such as those on capital participation and taxes, has had a positive impact on improving public services and local revenue, which has the potential to boost community welfare and local economic growth if implemented to the fullest extent. The research findings align with the research results of Safitri (2023), which state that regional formation needs to be well-managed and directed toward achieving development goals (SAFITRI, 2023).

DPRD Oversight of Local Regulation Implementation

The oversight system implemented by the Central Maluku Regency DPRD is carried out directly during the recess period, where DPRD members go down to the community to monitor the implementation of various local government programs. If there are deviations, delays, or obstacles,

these can be immediately identified through community reports or aspirations. Additionally, oversight is also conducted through Hearings (RDP) by inviting heads of departments or leaders of SKPDs to explain the use of the budget and program implementation in various sectors such as agriculture, education, health, and fisheries. For example, Commission 2 regularly holds RDPs with the Department of Agriculture and Food to obtain explanations regarding program achievements and obstacles. Supervision of the implementation of the Regional Budget runs optimally, and if deviations are found, the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) will report them to the competent legal institutions to prevent corruption or misuse of funds.

Political communication between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and the local government is effective, especially in discussing regional regulation products related to the budget or APBD, because the functions of supervision and formulation of these regulations must comply with applicable regulations. Implementation inconsistencies can be considered deviations and handled by the authorities. However, there is a dynamic of differing opinions between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and the local government, particularly regarding the accountability report on the implementation of the Regional Budget (LKPJ). For example, when social assistance funds have already been budgeted and recipient groups formed but disbursement has not yet taken place, the DPRD often becomes the target of questions from the public. Currently, the regional head's LKPJ is being discussed and will become a regional regulation product, through joint evaluation by relevant agencies, before being ratified in a plenary meeting. DPRD oversight of the implementation of the regional budget, which is the executive's authority, continues strictly, referring to the General Budget Policy and short-term to long-term development plans. Overall, the political oversight carried out by the Central Maluku DPRD is effective and maximized, as evidenced by the high success rate of development program implementation and the minimal amount of regional budget deviations. However, weaknesses and potential abuse of authority by certain individuals within local governments are still found, so DPRD's political oversight needs to be continuously optimized in the future to ensure accountability and transparency in the implementation of development programs.

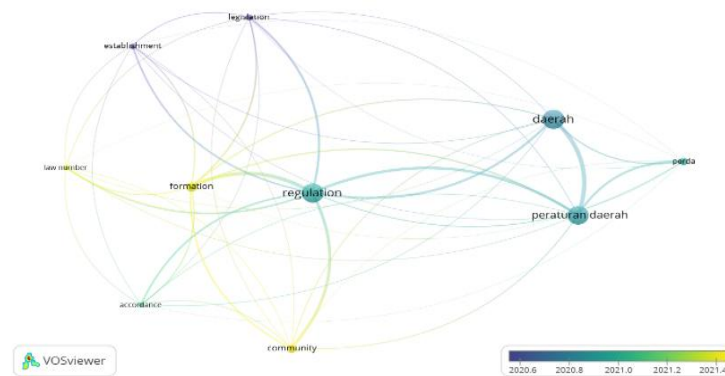
The Central Maluku Regency DPRD's oversight of the implementation of regional regulations and the execution of the regional budget is carried out through recess mechanisms and Public Hearings involving relevant agency officials, ensuring that oversight is direct and structured. Political communication between the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) and the local government is effective, particularly in budget oversight and regional regulations related to the Regional Budget (APBD), although there are dynamics of differing opinions, especially regarding the disbursement of social assistance funds that have not been realized. The regional head's accountability report (LKPJ) is currently being discussed and will become a regional regulation, demonstrating the strengthening of oversight mechanisms. Overall, the DPRD's political oversight functions effectively, with positive impacts on the implementation of development programs and minimal budget deviations. However, there are still weaknesses that indicate the need to enhance the oversight function to prevent abuse of authority in the future.

Potential topics based on the theme

This keyword network highlights the in-depth research focus on regulatory and governance aspects of local government, particularly in the context of the formation and implementation of local regulations (Perda). This study positions regional regulations as the primary instrument for regulating the dynamics of the relationship between local governments and communities, with a particular focus on the legislative process, community participation, and the alignment of legal products with national regulations. With regional autonomy as the foundation for government decentralization, research on regional regulations has great potential to examine how local policy-making mechanisms can create effective, accountable, and responsive governance to meet community needs. This focus also opens up space for discussion regarding the challenges and opportunities in maintaining harmony between

central and regional policies, as well as promoting more inclusive public participation in the regional legislative process.

Figure 1. Topic Aligned with the Theme



Based on Figure 1, this keyword network visualization illustrates the main thematic relationships in the study of local government regulation and governance, specifically concerning regional regulations (Perda). The largest node in terms like "regulation" and "regional regulations" indicates the dominance of the study's focus on the regulatory aspect as the main object of analysis. The significant link between "regional regulations," "region," and "community" indicates a focus on the interaction between local policies and community participation in both the formation and implementation of these regulations. This finding is consistent with the literature emphasizing the importance of community inclusiveness in local government governance to enhance the legitimacy and effectiveness of public policy.

Furthermore, the strong relationship between the terms "formation," "legislation," and "establishment" indicates that this study also highlights the procedural and institutional dimensions of local legal product formation. The temporal distribution of keywords centered around the period from mid-2020 to early 2021 indicates an increase in academic or policy focus on regional legislative aspects during that timeframe, possibly related to the dynamics of regulatory reform. This analysis indicates that the research not only addresses the substance of regulations but also assesses the mechanisms for establishing and strengthening legislative institutions at the local level, which play a crucial role in the sustainability of regional autonomy. The colors representing the time of keyword appearance reveal the evolutionary pattern of the research topic, from a community-oriented approach and the initial formation of regulations toward a more formal focus on legislation and institutional recognition. The connection to the terms "law number" and "accordance" underscores the critical attention given to harmonizing regional legal products with the national legal framework. This is important to ensure policy alignment and prevent regulatory overlap in the context of government decentralization. Overall, this visualization reflects a comprehensive research concentration on the substantive, procedural, and legal aspects of local regulatory governance, with particular attention to community participation and legal compliance as the foundation of effective regional autonomy.

Discussion

This research offers novelty by providing an in-depth focus on the behavior of local parliaments in the context of forming Regional Regulations (Perda) in Central Maluku Regency, a region with unique and complex social, cultural, and political characteristics, yet still lacking in empirical studies regarding its legislative dynamics. The main novelty lies in the approach that integrates the analysis of political interaction among legislative candidates in increasing vote acquisition with the process of

discussing and ratifying local regulations, which involves public participation and political oversight mechanisms at the local level. Additionally, this research examines how various political programs implemented by legislative candidates, such as economic empowerment, social assistance, and the development of educational infrastructure in mountainous areas, concretely influence political support and legislative success. The aspect of public participation in the discussion of regional regulations, measured thru the involvement of various stakeholders from the sub-districts, is an important aspect that was previously rarely studied comprehensively in this area.

Furthermore, this study examines the effectiveness of the DPRD's oversight system on the holistic implementation of regional regulations and development programs, including the relationship between oversight mechanisms, political communication between the legislature and the executive, and their impact on local government transparency and accountability. Thus, the results of this study provide a new contribution to the development of political behavior theory and legislative governance in areas with unique local cultural and political contexts.

The research topic is highly relevant and important to study, especially considering the strategic role of regional parliaments in determining policies that directly impact the lives of local communities. Focusing on parliamentary behavior in the context of regional regulation formation in Central Maluku provides a comprehensive insight into the dynamics of local politics, which are often influenced by unique social, cultural, and economic factors. This research not only helps understand how legislative candidates and DPRD members interact with the public and influence the legislative process, but also explores how public participation and political oversight mechanisms function within the unique context of local government. Additionally, this theme is relevant for strengthening local government governance by increasing the transparency, accountability, and effectiveness of local regulation formation. The qualitative approach used is very appropriate for capturing the complexity of political behavior and legislative processes that are not easily measured quantitatively. This research can provide constructive recommendations for policymakers and academics in improving the legislative system at the local level, particularly in regions with different socio-cultural characteristics, such as Central Maluku. Overall, this theme is very important because it touches on the fundamental aspects of representative democracy and how its implementation works in practice at the local level. This study has the potential to make a significant contribution to the local political literature and enhance understanding of political dynamics in remote areas or those with unique cultural characteristics.

The research topic regarding parliamentary behavior in the formation of regional regulations in Central Maluku Regency is highly relevant to the local government programs that have been implemented, such as youth economic empowerment, education infrastructure development, tourism management, and agricultural sector regulation. The local parliament plays a central role in formulating and approving regional regulations that serve as the legal basis for implementing these programs. Based on the research findings, the behavior of legislative candidates and DPRD members who actively engage in direct outreach to the community, as well as the use of aspiration funds to support physical and social development, is highly aligned with the local government's efforts to achieve responsive and inclusive development. The process of forming regional regulations that involves public participation and effective oversight mechanisms also supports the creation of regulations that are in line with local needs, thus facilitating the implementation of government programs. Therefore, this research reinforces that the successful implementation of development programs depends not only on the executive branch but also on the active role of the legislative branch in the formation and oversight of regulations. Synergy between parliament and local government, as well as community involvement in the legislative process, is a crucial key to ensuring that government programs can run effectively and have a positive impact on the welfare of the people of Central Maluku.

4 Conclusion

Based on the analysis of the various indicators formulated above, the following conclusions can be drawn:

This research reveals that the political strategies employed by legislative candidates in Central Maluku Regency are highly diverse and directly oriented toward the voting public. Candidate members are actively identifying various problems experienced by the community, especially in mountainous areas, and building partnerships with local NGOs and various other stakeholders. Through empowerment programs, especially for youth in the fields of economics and agriculture, and the use of aspiration funds to assist with physical development, such as repairing damaged school buildings and providing social assistance to the poor, the candidate was able to gain significant support from the community. In addition, they also assist the community in managing important documents such as electronic ID cards and advocate for the aspirations of flood-affected communities by collaborating with various parties to rehabilitate damaged facilities. This proactive political activity, which is oriented toward the real needs of the community, directly contributed to the increase in votes and seats in the Central Maluku DPRD.

The process of forming regional regulations in the Central Maluku Regency DPRD is carried out in accordance with the procedures stipulated in the Minister of Home Affairs Regulation. The draft regional regulation originates from two main mechanisms: local government initiatives and DPRD member initiatives, which are then discussed and approved through a joint plenary meeting. In this process, there is an assistance and consultation mechanism involving an expert team, universities, local government legal bureaus, and relevant ministries at the provincial level to ensure that the legal product is in accordance with local authority and does not conflict with higher regulations. Public participation is an important part of discussing the Regional Regulation through seminars and involving various relevant stakeholders from the sub-districts, although budget limitations restrict the scope of this participation. Nevertheless, the Central Maluku DPRD effectively manages the discussion and oversight process to ensure that the resulting Regional Regulation has strong legal force and is relevant to community needs. DPRD oversight of the implementation of regional regulations and the execution of regional development programs is carried out using various methods, including direct visits to the community during recess, receiving reports and aspirations from the public, and holding public hearings with relevant department heads. This supervision is carried out effectively and continuously, enabling the DPRD to identify both successes and obstacles in the implementation of programs funded by the regional budget. The evaluation of the Regional Head's Accountability Statement (LKPJKD) is also an important part of this supervision mechanism, where the evaluation results are used to improve the implementation of development programs in the future. Although there are still weaknesses and potential for abuse of authority at the local government level, the DPRD's political oversight in Central Maluku has been maximized and has played a significant role in ensuring transparency, accountability, and effectiveness in the administration of government and regional development.

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