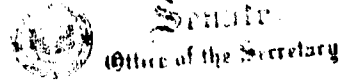


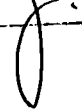
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

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'16 JUL 18 P6:01

S E N A T E

RECEIVED BY: 

S.B. NO. 384

Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BARANGAY UNIT THROUGH SUPPORT FOR BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND BARANGAY VOLUNTEER WORKERS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Explanatory Note

The Barangay, as defined by RA No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is the basic political unit which serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects and activities in the community. The said law also considers the barangay as a forum wherein the collective views of people may be expressed, crystallized and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled.

In view of the mandate of the barangay government, this measure aims to ease the financial burden of the barangay units by nationalizing the honorarium of the Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) and Tanods in each barangays in the country. This bill also seeks to build the capacities of the barangay officials and volunteers, thus, ensuring the proper and continuous implementation of the social programs and projects in the barangays.

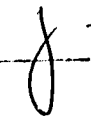
It is the intention of this bill to give the appropriate compensation due our barangay volunteers as a way of our appreciation for their dedication to our barangays.

Thus, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

16 JUL 18 P6:01

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

1 **SEC. 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as “The Barangay Reform Act.”
2

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared policy of the State to
4 empower and strengthen our Barangay Officials and Barangay Volunteer
5 Workers in order to sufficiently provide front line government services to the
6 Filipino people in the barangay level. The State acknowledges the need to
7 provide for the financial burden of rendering service and the need to properly
8 compensate and capacitate Barangay Officials and Volunteers. Furthermore,
9 the State recognizes the need to ensure continuity of programs, projects and
10 services of each barangay in order to effectively benefit our people.
11

12 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For the purposes of this Act, the following shall
13 mean:
14

- 15 a. Barangay Health Worker (BHW) shall refer to a person who has
16 undergone training programs under any accredited government or non-
17 government organization and who voluntarily renders primary health
18 care services in the community after having been accredited to function
19 as such by the local health board in accordance with the guidelines
20 promulgated by the Department of Health (DOH); and
21 b. Barangay Tanod shall refer to all duly appointed members of the
22 barangay tanod brigades, which shall not be more than twenty (20) in
23 each barangay as prescribed by Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known
24 as the Local Government Code of 1991.
25

26 **SEC. 4. Honorarium of BHWs and Barangay Tanods.** – In order to ease the
27 financial burden on our barangay officials and volunteers, the following
28 benefits shall be given by the National Government for services rendered by the
29 following Barangay Workers:
30

- 31 a. One (1) BHW in each Barangay shall receive a monthly honorarium of
32 not less than Five Hundred Pesos (P500) from the DOH; and

- 1 b. At least twenty (20) Tanods, in each barangay, shall receive a monthly
2 honorarium of not less than Five Hundred Pesos (P500) from the
3 Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).
4

5 The Barangay may choose to give additional honorarium to the aforementioned
6 volunteers. Provided, That such additional honorarium shall be charged
7 against the local budget of each barangay. Provided further, That Barangays
8 shall ensure that all BHWs receive the same honorarium.
9

10 **SEC. 5. Capacity Building for Barangay Officials and Volunteer Worker.** –
11 In addition to financial benefits, the National Government shall provide the
12 following to Barangay Officials and Volunteer Workers:
13

- 14 a. Training and workshops on how to effectively exercise their duty provided
15 by the DILG for Tanods and DOH for BHWs, and any other training fit for
16 Barangay Officials and Volunteer Workers;
17 b. Philhealth coverage for BHWs, which shall include medical examination
18 and treatment in government hospitals, and fully subsidized by the
19 National Government through the DOH. Provided, That indigent
20 barangay volunteers shall be covered through the full national
21 government subsidy scheme; and
22 c. Free legal services from government lawyers or the Public Attorney's
23 Office for cases arising from acts committed in the performance of duty.
24 Provided, That such legal services shall continue, even after the
25 expiration of the term of the Barangay volunteer, until its final
26 disposition.
27

28 **SEC. 6. Continuity of Barangay Services.** – In order to ensure the continuity
29 of Barangay Services, the term of office of all elected barangay officials after the
30 effectivity of this Act shall be five (5) years.
31

32 No barangay elective official shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms
33 in the same position.
34

35 The power of the DILG regarding suspension, removal, recall, and other
36 disciplinary actions against offending Barangay Official, as prescribed by
37 Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of
38 1991, shall be in full force and effect under this Act.
39

40 **SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The DILG, in consultation
41 with the Liga ng mga Barangay, DOH, and the Commission on Elections, shall
42 issue the rules and regulations to implement this Act within ninety (90) days
43 after its approval.
44

45 **SEC. 8. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is declared
46 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the
47 other provisions hereof.
48

49 **SEC. 9. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders and issuances or portion
50 thereof, as well as rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this
51 Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
52

53 **SEC. 10. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
54 publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general
55 circulation.
56

57 Approved,