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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. **2687**

Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE SHERNEE A. TAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In due recognition of the awesome responsibilities that barangay officials perform in rendering frontline basic services to barangay residents, Republic Act No. 7160 as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, explicitly provides certain privileges and benefits to barangay officials, which include monthly honorarium, insurance coverage, medical care, educational benefit such as exemption during their incumbency from paying tuition and matriculation fees for their legitimate dependent children attending state colleges or universities and appropriate civil service eligibility.

It worthy to emphasize however that the aforementioned law does not provide a minimum amount of honorarium for the members of barangay tanod brigades and lupong tagapamayapa that they were left only to the discretion of the barangay hierarchy as to the amount of their monthly remunerations. They are also not entitled to Christmas bonus, insurance coverage, medical care and other non-monetary benefits.

This important piece of legislation therefore aims not only to effectively address the inequities committed against the tanods and the lupos but also to expand the incentives and benefits granted to all the officials involved in the delivery of basic services in the barangays by adjusting their minimum amount of honorarium and Christmas bonus and by granting them a lump sum retirement gratuity and other non-monetary benefits.

In view of the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



SHERNEE A. TAN

Representative

Kusug Tausug Partylist

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

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HOUSE BILL No. **2687**

Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE SHERNEE A. TAN

AN ACT

INCREASING THE HONORARIUM AND CHRISTMAS BONUS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, AND GRANTING A LUMP SUM GRATUITY PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00), AND OTHER NON-MONETARY BENEFITS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT No. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

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

SECTION 1. Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 393. *Benefits of Barangay Officials.* – (a) Barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the lupong tagapamayapa, shall receive honoraria, allowances, and such other emoluments as may be authorized by law or barangay, municipal or city ordinance in accordance with the provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than [One]FIVE thousand pesos (P[1] 5,000.00) per month for the punong barangay and [Six hundred] THREE THOUSAND pesos (P[600] 3,000.00) per month for the sangguniang barangay members, [and] barangay treasurer, and barangay secretary AND TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00) FOR BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA: *Provided, however,* That the annual appropriations for personal services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under Title Five, Book II of this Code.

(b) The punong barangay, the sangguniang barangay members, the barangay treasurer, and the barangay secretary shall also:

(1) Be entitled to Christmas bonus of at least [One] TWO thousand pesos (P[1] 2,000.00) each, the funds for which shall be taken from the general fund of the barangay or from such other funds appropriated by the national government for the purpose[.]; *PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA SHALL ALSO ENJOY THIS BENEFIT.*

(2) Be entitled, during their incumbency, to insurance coverage which shall include, but shall not be limited to temporary and permanent disability, double indemnity, accident insurance, death and burial benefits, in accordance with Republic Act Numbered Sixty-nine hundred forty-two (R.A. No. 6942), entitled "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor;"

(3) Be entitled to free medical care, including subsistence, medicines, and medical assistance in any government hospital or institution: *Provided, That* such hospital care shall include surgery or surgical expenses, medicines, X-rays, laboratory fees, and other hospital expenses;

In case of extreme urgency where there is no available government hospital or institution, the barangay official concerned may submit himself for immediate attendance to the nearest private clinic, hospital or institution and the expenses not exceeding Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) that may be incurred therein shall be chargeable against the funds of the barangay concerned;

(4) Be exempted, during their incumbency, from paying tuition and matriculation fees for their legitimate dependent children attending state college or universities. He may likewise avail of such educational benefits in a state college or university located within the province or city to which the barangay belongs; [and]

(5) Be entitled to appropriate civil service eligibility on the basis of the number of years of service to the barangay, pursuant to the rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission[.];

(6) BE ENTITLED TO A LUMP SUM RETIREMENT GRATUITY PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE (1) YEAR HONORARIUM, BUT IN NO CASE SHALL EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) TO BE TAKEN FROM THE BARANGAY RETIREMENT GRATUITY FUND: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A RETIREE IS AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OF AGE WITH A MINIMUM OF NINE (9) YEARS IN SERVICE AT THE TIME OF THE RETIREMENT;*

(8) BE ENTITLED TO TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT IN TRANSPORTATION FARE, AND HOTEL ACCOMODATION CHARGE.

SEC. 2. *Barangay Retirement Gratuity Fund (BRGF) Created.* – There is hereby created a Barangay Retirement Gratuity Fund (BRGF) which shall be used to fund the retirement gratuity of barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa, as mentioned in this Act. The amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the share of the national government under Section 284 of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended shall be used for this purpose.

SEC. 3. *Coverage.* – The benefits granted under this Act shall cover all barangay officials, barangay tanods and members of the lupon ng tagapamayapa, including those in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM);

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

Approved,