

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5655



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure intends to provide for mandatory Phil Health coverage for all barangay officials, employees, members of the Lupon Tagapamayapa, Barangay Tanods, Barangay Health Workers and Barangay Nutrition Scholars.

Section 384 of the Local Government Code of 1991 states that, "*as the basic political unit, the barangay serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs projects and activities in the community, and as a forum wherein the collective views of the people may be expressed, crystallized and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled*". This puts barangay officials and personnel are at the forefront of governance.

Barangay officials and personnel play a significant role in improving the political and social conditions of the country through delivery of government services and providing a safe and peaceful environment. They are instrumental in helping the national government attain its goals. However, despite the vital role of the barangay in government service and nation-building, most of the personnel comprising it only receive measly compensation.

Volunteer tanods put their lives on line every time they patrol in their respective vicinities but only receive a token pay. Barangay health workers and other personnel who provide government service only get an honorarium. The least we can do is to provide them health insurance so if they are hurt while fulfilling their duties, the treatment and medication will be shouldered by the PhilHealth. This is also in line with the role of government in removing barriers and providing wider access to healthcare which is a universal basic service.

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

MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III
Representative
Magdalo Para Sa Pilipino Party-List

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AN ACT

**PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL
BARANGAY OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES, MEMBERS OF THE LUPON
TAGAPAMAYAPA, TANODS, HEALTH WORKERS AND BARANGAY
NUTRITION SCHOLARS**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the state to
2 promote the welfare of the Barangay Officials, Employees, Members of the Lupon
3 Tagapamayapa, Tanods, Health Workers and Barangay Nutrition Scholars. In pursuit thereof, the
4 State shall provide complete Philhealth benefits to all of the incumbent barangay officials,
5 employees, Members of the Lupon Tagapamayapa, Tanods, Health Workers and Barangay
6 Nutrition Scholars.

7
8 **SEC. 2. Coverage.** – The Punong Barangay, Barangay Kagawads, Barangay Tanods,
9 Barangay Secretaries, Barangay Treasurer, Members of the Lupon Tagapamayapa, duly-
10 accredited Barangay Health workers and Barangay Nutrition Scholars under Presidential Decree
11 1569 of all barangays of the Republic of the Philippines shall be covered by this Act.

12
13 **SEC. 3. Philhealth Benefits.** – All Barangay Officials, Employees, Members of the Lupon
14 Tagapamayapa, Tanods, Health Workers and Barangay Nutrition Scholars stated in the previous
15 section shall enjoy complete Philhealth coverage under the National Health Insurance Act of 1995.

16
17 **SEC. 4. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to guarantee the enrolment of all
18 Barangay Officials, Employees, Members of the Lupon Tagapamayapa, Tanods, Health Workers
19 and Barangay Nutrition Scholars not currently covered by any existing category shall be sourced
20 from the National Insurance Fund of Philhealth from the proceeds of Republic Act No. 10351, in
21 accordance with pertinent laws and regulations.

1 **SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or
2 parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified
3 accordingly.
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5 **SEC. 6. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
6 the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,