



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



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3527

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**Introduced by Representatives Ria Christina G. Fariñas  
and Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

1 This bill seeks to establish a Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) which will  
2 exercise the primary responsibility of securing the safety of all Members of  
3 Congress, protecting the properties of both the Senate and the House of  
4 Representatives and ensuring that the mandate and authority vested in the  
5 Members of Congress by the Constitution, and its legislative powers remains  
6 unobstructed. Through the PLP, the Congress is empowered to enforce and  
7 execute its powers of contempt and issuance of *subpoenas*, summonses and  
8 warrants of arrest. Further, the establishment of PLP creates a safe and secure  
9 environment for the Members to fully exercise their legislative responsibilities  
10 with independence.

11  
12 The system of checks and balances fundamentally requires the  
13 independence of the branches of government and only through such  
14 independence that the ends of government are better achieved.

15  
16 Currently, the Congress relies on the law enforcement agencies under  
17 the Executive Department to enforce and execute its contempt orders and  
18 warrants of arrest. In the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, a warrant of arrest was issued by the  
19 Committee on Justice against Ronnie Dayan for his failure to appear before  
20 the committee conducting public hearing on the proliferation of drug  
21 syndicates at the New Bilibid Prison. The arrest was made by personnel of the  
22 Philippine National Police (PNP), mainly because the House of  
23 Representatives does not have an enforcement body that is equipped and  
24 authorized to carry out its contempt and arrest orders.

25  
26 The PNP and other law enforcement agencies are under the control  
27 and supervision of the Executive Department. As such, the Congress is  
28 helpless to do anything if the PNP and other law enforcement agencies,

1 which have been commissioned by the Congress to enforce and execute its  
2 orders, are remiss of their assigned duties.

3  
4 The reliance of Congress on the law enforcement agencies of the  
5 Executive Department in the protection of its Members and the enforcement  
6 and execution of its powers impairs, to a large extent, the independence of  
7 Congress from the Executive Department.

8  
9 The works and activities of the Members of the Senate and the House  
10 of Representatives are not confined in the premises of their respective Session  
11 Halls or their offices. Attending various meetings and looking after their  
12 constituents are indispensable part of their duties. Inherent to their functions  
13 as legislators and politicians are the threats to their lives. And again, as the  
14 Congress does not have enough manpower and capability to provide  
15 security to its Members in performing outside duties, it relies on the law  
16 enforcement agencies of the Executive Department.

17  
18 The bill further proposes that officers will have the same qualifications,  
19 salaries and benefits, retirement age and equivalent rank of the members of  
20 the Philippine National Police (PNP). However, their functions will be limited to  
21 providing safety and security to every Member of Congress and the  
22 enforcement and execution of the orders of Congress in the exercise of its  
23 powers.

24  
25 This measure is a refiled bill from House Bill No. 6208 authored by former  
26 Representative Rodolfo C. Fariñas in the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress.

27  
28 In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.  
29  
30

  
RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS I

  
RIA CHRISTINA G. FARIÑAS





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1 **AN ACT**  
2 **ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE LEGISLATIVE POLICE (PLP) AND APPROPRIATING**  
3 **FUNDS THEREFOR**  
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the*  
6 *Philippines in Congress assembled:*  
7

8 SECTION 1. **Short Title.** – This Act may be cited as the "Philippine  
9 Legislative Police Act."  
10

11 SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the  
12 State to ensure the independence of the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial  
13 Departments of the government to promote efficiency and to enable them  
14 to perform their respective constitutional mandates.  
15

16 Toward this end, an independent and organized police force under the  
17 control and supervision of the Congress of the Philippines is necessary to  
18 secure the performance of the Legislature of its constitutionally mandated  
19 duty to make laws that effectively respond to the needs of our people.  
20

21 The police force shall be organized, trained, and equipped primarily for  
22 the protection and security of Members of the Congress of the Philippines  
23 and its officers, employees, visitors, and properties. No elements of the police  
24 force shall be in the military, nor shall any position thereof be occupied by an  
25 active member of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the  
26 Philippine National Police (PNP).

1        SEC. 3. **Philippine Legislative Police (PLP).** – There is hereby established a  
2 Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) under the control and supervision of the  
3 Congress of the Philippines. The PLP shall be primarily responsible for the  
4 protection of the Members and properties of both the House of  
5 Representatives and the Senate.

6  
7        The Offices of the Sergeant-at-Arms, as provided by the Rules of the  
8 House of Representatives and the Rules of the Senate, shall continue to be  
9 headed by their respective Sergeant-at-Arms who shall oversee the daily  
10 operations of the PLP.

11  
12        SEC. 4. **Powers and Functions.** – The PLP shall exercise the following the  
13 duties and functions:

14  
15        (a) Secure the safety of all Members of Congress, their spouses, and  
16 relatives, up to the second degree of consanguinity, upon determination and  
17 validation that their lives are under threat;

18  
19        (b) Protect the properties of Congress and ensure the safety of its  
20 employees, visitors, and other persons who are in the premises of Congress;

21  
22        (c) Maintain peace and order and conduct patrol duties,  
23 communications, intelligence gathering and access control systems in the  
24 premises of Congress;

25  
26        (d) Coordinate with other law enforcement agencies to maximize  
27 collection and sharing of intelligence information for purposes of identifying  
28 threats to Congress or any of its Members, their spouses, and relatives up to  
29 the second degree of consanguinity;

30  
31        (e) Prevent crimes, effect the arrest of criminal offenders, investigate  
32 the commission of all crimes and offenses committed within the jurisdiction of  
33 the Congress, and assist in the prosecution thereof;

34  
35        (f) Coordinate the issuance of licenses for the possession of, and  
36 permits to carry, firearms to Members of Congress, the PLP personnel, and the  
37 Secretariat employees of both Houses of Congress, as well as the  
38 congressional staff of incumbent Members of Congress;

39  
40        (g) Serve subpoenas and warrants that the Congress may issue;

41  
42        (h) Purchase firearms, ammunitions, and other equipment necessary for  
43 the performance of its function;

44  
45        (i) Issue Mission Orders and Memorandum of Receipt for the purpose  
46 of providing its personnel with firearms, ammunitions and other equipment;  
47 and



1 (j) Perform and exercise all other powers and functions necessary to  
2 implement the provisions of this Act.  
3

4 **SEC. 5. Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) Board.** – The PLP shall be  
5 governed by the Philippine Legislative Police Board, hereinafter referred to as  
6 the Board, composed of the Chairperson of the Committee on Public Order  
7 and Safety of the House of Representatives, the Chairperson of the Public  
8 Order and Dangerous Drugs of the Senate of the Philippines, the Sergeant-at-  
9 Arms of the House of Representatives, the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate,  
10 and a retired General of the AFP or Chief Superintendent of the Philippine  
11 National Police who shall act as Chairman and appointed jointly by the  
12 Speaker of the House of Representatives and Senate President. The Chairman  
13 shall serve for term of three (3) years with reappointment. The members of the  
14 Board shall hold office until their successors are duly elected or appointed.  
15 The Board shall exercise the following:  
16

17 (a) Selection, appointment, and promotion of personnel;  
18

19 (b) Deployment, placement, and utilization of the PLP or any of its units  
20 and personnel;  
21

22 (c) Resolution of any complaint filed against its officers and exercise  
23 disciplinary powers, including imposition of penalties;  
24

25 (d) Establishment of an effective performance system; and  
26

27 (e) Issuance of policies and instructions regarding personnel, funds,  
28 properties, records, correspondences, and such other matters as may be  
29 necessary to effectively carry out the functions, powers, and duties of the  
30 PLP.  
31

32 The exercise of powers of the Board is subject to the review and  
33 approval of the Speaker on the part of the House of Representatives and  
34 Senate President on the part of the Senate of the Philippines. The Board may  
35 hold its regular meetings in either of the offices of the Sergeant-at-Arms of the  
36 House and Senate and its special meetings in any place in Metro Manila.  
37 Expenses for the special meetings are subject to existing budgeting,  
38 accounting, and auditing rules and regulations.  
39

40 **SEC. 6. Organizational Structure and Staffing Pattern.** – Within six (6)  
41 months from the convening of the Board, the organizational structure and  
42 staffing pattern of the PLP shall be formulated and finalized for the joint  
43 approval of the Speaker of the House and Senate President. The PLP shall be  
44 comprised of two (2) key units, the Operations and Administrative Bureaus,  
45 which shall be headed by the Chief for Operations and the Chief  
46 Administrative Officer, respectively.  
47

1       **A. PLP Operations Bureau**

2  
3       The following services shall be under the Operations Bureau:

- 4  
5       (1) **Operational Service**, which is responsible for the operational needs  
6       of the PLP, shall include specialty units such as command center,  
7       communications, crisis and emergency unit, patrol and mobile unit,  
8       and canine unit.  
9  
10      (2) **Protective Service**, which is responsible for collecting and analyzing  
11      information to produce intelligence, assessing threats, identifying  
12      and mitigating risks, and protecting Members of Congress, shall  
13      include specialty units such as investigation, intelligence analysis,  
14      and dignitary protection.  
15  
16      (3) **Security Service**, which is responsible for the planning, design, and  
17      execution of security measures in the premises of both Houses of  
18      Congress.  
19

20       **B. PLP Administrative Bureau**

21  
22      The following services shall be under the Administrative Bureau:

- 23  
24      (1) **Financial Management Service**, which is responsible for all the  
25      financial activity of the PLP, shall include accounting, budget, and  
26      procurement divisions.  
27  
28      (2) **Human Resource Service**, which is responsible for developing,  
29      implementing, and administering human resource programs and  
30      services including recruitment, compensation and benefits,  
31      employee relations, training and development, and compliance  
32      with labor and employment laws.  
33  
34      (3) **Information Systems Service**, which is responsible for the planning,  
35      budgeting, designing, and applying various technologies in support  
36      of the PLP operations, such as providing automated information,  
37      networking, telecom, and wireless communications.  
38

39       **SEC. 7. Rank of Officers.** – For purposes of efficient administration,  
40       supervision, and control, the PLP shall have the following rank classification:

41  
42       Legislative Chief Superintendent  
43       Legislative Senior Superintendent  
44       Legislative Superintendent  
45       Legislative Chief Inspector  
46       Legislative Senior Inspector  
47       Legislative Inspector



1 Legislative Senior Police Officer IV  
2 Legislative Senior Police Officer III  
3 Legislative Senior Police Officer II  
4 Legislative Senior Police Officer I  
5 Legislative Police Officer III  
6 Legislative Police Officer II  
7 Legislative Police Officer I  
8

9 The Board shall make use of this classification in preparing the staffing  
10 pattern of the officers and prescribe the number of officers in each rank. The  
11 Board may make reference to the existing ranks of the uniformed personnel  
12 of other departments.  
13

14 SEC. 8. **Qualification and Examination.** – No person shall be appointed  
15 office of the PLP unless the applicant possesses the following minimum  
16 qualifications:  
17

18 (a) A citizen of the Philippines;  
19

20 (b) A person of good moral conduct;  
21

22 (c) Must have passed the psychiatric or psychological, drug, and  
23 physical tests to be administered by the PLP accredited government hospitals  
24 for the purpose of determining physical and mental health;  
25

26 (d) Must possess a formal baccalaureate degree from a recognized  
27 institution of learning;  
28

29 (e) Must be eligible in accordance with the standards set by the  
30 Board;  
31

32 (f) Must not have been dishonorably discharged from military  
33 employment or dismissed for cause from any civilian position in the  
34 Government;  
35

36 (g) Must not have been convicted by final judgment of an offense  
37 or crime involving moral turpitude;  
38

39 (h) Must be at least one meter and sixty-two centimeters (1.62m) in  
40 height for male and one meter and fifty-seven centimeters (1.57m) for female;  
41

42 (i) Must weigh not more than or less five kilograms (5 kgs.) from the  
43 standard weight corresponding to the height, age, and sex; and  
44

45 (j) A new applicant must not be less than twenty-one (21) years of  
46 age nor more than twenty-nine (29) years of age for female and thirty-two  
47 (32) years of age for male.

1 Except for item (j) above, these qualifications shall be continuing in  
2 character and an absence of any one of them at any given time shall be  
3 ground for separation or retirement from the service.

4  
5 For the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements on  
6 physical and mental health, as well as the non-use of prohibited drugs, the  
7 PLP, through an accredited government hospital, shall conduct regular  
8 psychiatric, psychological drug, and physical tests randomly and without  
9 prior notice.

10  
11 Likewise, no officer may be appointed without passing the qualifying  
12 entrance examinations that shall be administered by the PLP on the basis of  
13 the standards set by the Board.

14  
15 **SEC. 9. Training and Education.** – The officers of the PLP shall undergo  
16 continuous training and education to ensure that they maintain and improve  
17 their skills as well as inform themselves of up-to-date knowledge and  
18 information on security.

19  
20 The officers of the PLP shall undergo training and education in the  
21 Philippine Public Safety College or in other equivalent institutions. The  
22 Congress of the Philippines may establish its own training and education  
23 support unit for the benefit of the PLP.

24  
25 **SEC. 10. Promotion.** – To be eligible for promotion, an officer of the PLP  
26 shall comply with the following requirements:

27  
28 (a) Pass the corresponding promotional examination given by the  
29 Board;

30  
31 (b) Complete an appropriate and accredited training course designed  
32 by the Board;

33  
34 (c) Pass the psychiatric or psychological and drug tests; and

35  
36 (d) Present certification of no pending administrative or criminal case.

37 Special or meritorious promotion may be extended to any officer for  
38 acts of conspicuous courage and gallantry at risk of the officer's life above  
39 and beyond the call of duty upon prior validation by the Board based on  
40 established criteria.

41  
42 **SEC. 11. Salaries and Benefits.** – The officers and employees shall  
43 receive the existing salaries, benefits, and other allowances authorized for  
44 corresponding salary grades provided under existing laws, and civil service  
45 laws, rules and regulations. They shall also be entitled to other benefits and  
46 allowances that secretariat employees of the House of Representatives and



1 the Senate may receive subject to the joint approval of the Speaker of the  
2 House and the Senate President.

3  
4 **SEC 12. Retirement.** – Any officer attaining fifty-six (56) years of age shall  
5 be compulsorily retired. However, any officer, upon accumulation of twenty-  
6 five (25) years of satisfactory service may apply for early retirement subject to  
7 the approval of the Board.

8  
9 Upon compulsory retirement, an officer is entitled to retirement benefits  
10 computed one grade higher than the position last held.

11  
12 The retirement age provided in this section applies only to new  
13 entrants. An existing personnel who qualifies to be an officer shall be  
14 compulsorily retired after attaining six-five (65) years of age. However, such  
15 personnel may retire after attaining fifty-six (56) years of age and is entitled to  
16 additional gratuity provided by existing law, rules, and regulations on  
17 retirement.

18  
19 **SEC. 13. Death and Disability.** – The officer or the heirs are entitled to all  
20 benefits relative to the death or permanent incapacity of the officer under  
21 existing laws. In addition, an officer who accumulated at least twenty (20)  
22 years of service who incurs total permanent disability in line of duty is  
23 compulsorily retired and is entitled to a separation pay equivalent to one and  
24 one-half (1½) basic salary for every year of service computed on the current  
25 salary grade. A fraction of six (6) months shall be considered one (1) whole  
26 year.

27  
28 **SEC. 14. Administrative Complaint and Disciplinary Action.** – Any  
29 administrative complaint and disciplinary action filed against any officer shall  
30 be heard, decided, and implemented in accordance with the rules of  
31 procedure that the Board shall establish for the purpose. The administrative  
32 penalties that the Board may impose corresponding to the act or omission of  
33 the officer include withholding of privileges, forfeiture of salary, suspension, or  
34 any combination thereof, for a period not exceeding one hundred (180)  
35 days.

36  
37 **SEC. 15. Summary Dismissal Power of the Board.** – The Board, after due  
38 notice and hearing, may immediately remove or dismiss any officer in the  
39 following cases:

40  
41 (a) When the charge involves moral turpitude and the evidence of guilt  
42 is strong;

43  
44 (b) When the officer has been repeatedly charged and there are  
45 reasonable grounds to believe that the officer is guilty of the charges; and  
46

1 (c) When the officer is guilty of a serious offense involving conduct  
2 unbecoming of an officer.

3  
4 Any officer who shall go on absence without leave (AWOL) for a  
5 continuous period of thirty (30) days or more shall be dismissed immediately  
6 from the service.

7  
8 SEC. 16. **Legal Assistance.** – The Office of the Legal Affairs of House of  
9 Representatives and the Office of Legal Counsel of the Senate shall provide  
10 legal assistance to any officer of PLP who is charged in any court or  
11 competent body arising from any incident related to the performance of  
12 official duty.

13  
14 SEC. 17. **Transitory Provision.** – All personnel, properties, equipment,  
15 functions, and responsibilities of the Offices of the Sergeant-at-Arms as  
16 provided by the Rules of the House of Representatives and the Rules of the  
17 Senate, as well as their legislative security bureaus, are hereby transferred to  
18 the PLP.

19  
20 All regular or permanent employees transferred to the PLP shall not  
21 suffer any loss of seniority nor diminution of benefits and shall undergo six (6)  
22 months of socio-civic police training, which includes one hundred (100) hours  
23 of theoretical and practical exercise on constitutional and human rights and  
24 other relevant trainings necessary to their new function. The Board shall  
25 identify who among the regular employees may be appointed officer of the  
26 PLP. The appointed officers shall then be deployed and remain in their  
27 present assignments.

28  
29 Any employee who may not be accommodated in the new position  
30 structure and staffing pattern shall be given preference to join any offices of  
31 the Congress or allowed to retire under existing laws, rules and regulations.  
32 Any employee who opts to retire is entitled to an additional gratuity  
33 equivalent to three (3) months basic salary for every year of service. A  
34 fraction of six (6) months shall be considered one (1) whole year.

35  
36 SEC. 18. **Appropriation.** – The amount necessary for the initial  
37 implementation of the Act shall be sourced from the current appropriations  
38 of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Thereafter, such sums as  
39 may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be  
40 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

41  
42 SEC. 19. **Reportorial Requirements.** – The Board shall submit to the  
43 Speaker of the House and Senate President an annual report of the  
44 operations of the PLP. Likewise, within fifteen (15) days before the final  
45 adjournment of each Congress, the Board shall submit a summary report on  
46 the review of the organizational structure and staffing pattern, which includes  
47 recommendation on the viability of the abolition or creation of services.



1        SEC. 20. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days  
2 from the approval of this Act, the Board shall promulgate the rules and  
3 regulations implementing the provision of this Act. The implementing rules  
4 and regulations issued pursuant to this section shall take effect thirty (30) days  
5 after publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.  
6

7        SEC. 21. **Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is declared  
8 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected  
9 thereby shall remain in full force and effect.  
10

11        SEC. 22. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
12 publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.  
13

Approved,