# Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

# EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO.

441



### Introduced by HONORABLE STRIKE B. REVILLA

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Local Government Code of 1991 recognizes the role of the barangay as the "primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community; as a forum wherein the collective views of people may be expressed, crystallized, and considered; and where disputes may be amicably settled." There is, in effect, a compelling need to empower barangay officials, and to properly compensate their efforts.

This measure seeks to give additional monetary and non-monetary benefits to barangay officials. Barangay officials implement programs at the grassroots level. They work hard to ensure that constituents receive proper benefits, but in exchange, these same barangay officials often receive the short end of the stick. Barangay officials deserve more benefits for their dedication to public service.

This measure therefore seeks to recognize the role being performed by barangay officials; unsung workers who play a vital role in the most basic government unit and political subdivision.

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

REP. STRIKE B. REVILLA 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Cavite

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AN ACT INCREASING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, AND GRANTING A LUMP SUM RETIREMENT 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 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, AS AMENDED

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, 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 thousand pesos (P1,000.00)] SIX THOUSAND PESOS (P6,000.00) per month for the punong barangay and [Six hundred pesos (P600.00)] FOUR THOUSAND PESOS (P4,000.00) per month for the sangguniang barangay members, barangay treasurer, and barangay secretary AND THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000.00) 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 thousand pesos (P1,000.00)] THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000.00) 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 LUPON NG 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 attendance 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 medical 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 colleges 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 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 AT LEAST NINE (9) YEARS IN SERVICE AT THE TIME OF THE RETIREMENT;

AS USED IN THIS SUB-SECTION, THE TERM "RETIREE" SHALL INCLUDE ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS, AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA; AND,

(7) BE ENTITLED TO TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT IN TRANSPORTATION FARES.

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- (d) All duly appointed members of the barangay tanod brigades, or their equivalent, which shall number not more than twenty (20) in each barangay, shall be granted insurance, FREE TUITION AND MATRICULATION FEES FOR THEIR LEGITIMATE DEPENDENT CHILDREN ATTENDING STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, or other benefits during their incumbency chargeable to the barangay or the city or municipal government to which the barangay belongs.
- 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.

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall administer and ensure the appropriate disbursement of the Fund.

- **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. 4. Rules and Regulations. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM), in coordination with the DILG, and the Department of Transportation (DOTr), shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.
- **SEC. 5.** *Repealing Clause.* All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 6. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after in publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,