

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6785



---

Introduced by **HON. KRISTINE ALEXIE B. TUTOR**  
3<sup>rd</sup> District, Bohol

---

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution requires the State to provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to members of the Armed Forces, their spouse and their dependents. This is in recognition of the perils that our military personnel face in the conduct of their duties to the country.

The risks involved in the performance of their duties puts in peril the welfare of their families should something unfortunate happen to them. Thus, it is but appropriate for the government to provide dependents of our military personnel appropriate benefits should they be killed or permanently incapacitated while performing their duty.

In accordance with the Constitution as well as in recognition of the valuable role of the military in defending and preserving the security of the country, this measure provides the necessary framework of institutionalizing benefits for military dependents and emphasizes on increasing benefits on the dependents for health, housing, education, among others.

In view of the foregoing, expeditious passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**HON. KRISTINE ALEXIE B. TUTOR**

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6785

---

Introduced by **HON. KRISTINE ALEXIE B. TUTOR**  
3<sup>rd</sup> District, Bohol

---

AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR BENEFITS TO MILITARY DEPENDENTS, CREATING THE  
MILITARY DEPENDENTS WELFARE OFFICE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1        **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the "*Military Dependent's*  
2 *Benefits Act.*"

3  
4        **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It shall be the policy of the State to ensure the  
5 prosperity and well-being of its citizens through policies and programs that provide adequate  
6 social services, promote rising standards of living and an improved quality of life for all.

7        Moreover, the State recognizes the vital role of the military in the protection of our  
8 country's sovereignty and should therefore ensure the promotion and improvement of the  
9 social and economic status of military personnel and their dependents.

10  
11        **Sec. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act, the following shall mean:

- 12        a) *Military Dependent* refers to the wife, children and other persons dependent on the  
13 military personnel for chief support, duly registered with the Moral and Welfare  
14 Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel J1 of the Armed Forces of  
15 the Philippines.  
16        b) *AFP Military Personnel* shall include all active and incapacitated members of the  
17 Armed Forces of the Philippines.

1       **Sec. 4. Educational Benefits.** – Dependents of military personnel not exceeding four  
2 (4) shall be entitled to educational assistance in any of the following educational levels with  
3 the indicated amount of support per school year and corresponding durations as follows:

| Educational level | Amount of Support<br>(Per year) | Duration  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| College           | P50,000.00                      | 4/5 years |
| Vocational        | P30,000.00                      | 2 years   |
| Secondary         | P30,000.00                      | 6 years   |
| Elementary        | P20,000.00                      | 6 years   |

1       **Sec. 5. Health Benefits.** – Dependents of Military personnel shall be entitled to the  
2 following health benefits to be provided by AFP Health Facilities located in various parts of  
3 the country:

- 4       a) Free Hospitalization, inclusive of Professional Services, Medicines, and Medical  
5       Supplies;  
6       b) Dispensary or Outpatient Services;  
7       c) Ambulance Services; and  
8       d) Free Dental Services.

9  
10       **Sec. 6. Housing Benefits.** – All military personnel and their dependents shall be  
11 provided with the necessary housing subject to the eligibility and priority system set by the  
12 Major Service/Unit Housing Boards of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Housing,  
13 especially Off-Base housing in preparation for retirement will be provided additional  
14 funding.

15  
16       **Sec. 7. Commissary Benefits.** – All military dependents shall be entitled to the  
17 benefit/privilege of purchasing tax-exempt merchandise from any of the AFPCES units either  
18 cash or salary check.

19  
20       **Sec. 8. Other Benefits and Privileges.** – Military dependents shall continue to receive  
21 all other existing benefits and privileges.  
22



1       **Sec. 9. *Creation of the Military Dependents Welfare Office.*** – There is hereby  
2 created a Military Dependents Welfare Office, herein after referred to as the Office, which  
3 shall be attached to the Morale and Welfare Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for  
4 Personnel, J-1 Armed Forces of the Philippines, for the coordination and recommendation of  
5 policies and programs for military dependents.

6  
7       **Sec. 10. *Functions of the Office.*** – The Office shall have the powers and functions:

- 8       a) To act as coordinating body for all issues and concerns of military dependents;  
9       b) To formulate and institutionalize the necessary system and mechanism to ensure the  
10 effective and responsive delivery of benefits for military dependents;  
11       c) To facilitate and ensure the swift release of benefits to the Military Dependents;  
12       d) To review existing benefits and recommend the necessary improvements to ensure  
13 better benefits for Military Dependents; and  
14       e) To annually recommend to the Department of National Defense appropriations for  
15 military dependent's benefits under the budget of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

16  
17       **Sec. 11. *Coordination with Armed Forces of the Philippines Savings and Loans,***  
18 ***Associations Incorporated (AFPSLAI) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines***  
19 ***Retirement Separation Benefit System (AFPRSBS).*** – The Military Dependents' benefits  
20 office shall coordinate with the AFPSLAI and AFPRSBS to facilitate and ensure the release  
21 of benefits for military dependents.

22  
23       **Sec. 12. *Appropriations.*** – The Department of National Defense shall, every year  
24 allocate a portion of their annual budget for the support of this Act.

25  
26       **Sec. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Department of National  
27 Defense shall promulgate the Rules and Regulations necessary for the effective  
28 implementation of this Act.

29  
30       **Sec. 14. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision of this Act is subsequently  
31 declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby  
32 shall remain in full force and effect.

1       **Sec. 15. *Repealing Clause.*** – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive  
2 orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are  
3 contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed,  
4 amended, or modified accordingly.

5  
6       **Sec. 16. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
7 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,