

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4271



Introduced by HON. ALETA C. SUAREZ

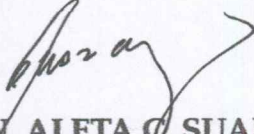
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution secures the right to health through Section 11. Under this provision, the State is mandated to make essential goods, health, and other social services available to all the people at an affordable cost. Under the Local Government Code, the implementation of national health care programs and delivery of public health services have been devolved to the local government units. Since then, the barangays have been in the frontline, ensuring that these public services in relation to health care, are readily available and easily accessible to the people at all times.

The Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) serve as the front-liners of primary health care in the community. In the absence of adequate health care professionals in communities, especially in the far-flung areas and provinces, the barangay health workers fill the gap by providing support in the delivery of essential health care services in barangay health stations. BHWs also report to the rural health units to assist in the implementation of local and national health care programs. Clearly, the BHWs play an important role in implementing national health policies and achieving national health care goals.

At present, the BHWs serve on a voluntary basis and receive only an honoraria from the local government units. Given the significant role of the BHWs in delivering health services to the community, this bill seeks to grant BHWs standardized compensation that is equitable and reasonable, and recognizes their contribution to the welfare of those in their community.

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



HON. ALETA C. SUAREZ
Representative
Third District, Quezon Province

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**AN ACT GRANTING STANDARDIZED SALARY AND OTHER BENEFITS TO
BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS' BENEFITS AND
INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995**

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

SECTION 1. Section 6 (b) of Republic Act No. 7883 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 6. Incentives and Benefits. - In recognition of their services, all accredited barangay health workers who are actively and regularly performing their duties shall be entitled to the following incentives and benefits:

x x x

(b) *Standardized honoraria* - Barangay health workers who render services within the premises of isolated barangay health stations in order to make their services available at any and all times, shall be entitled to a monthly standard honoraria equivalent to Salary Grade 1: *Provided*, That barangay health workers shall complete eighty (80) working hours in a month: *Provided, further*, That the amount shall be computed based on the number of hours rendered in service.

SEC. 2. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be derived from the revenues collected by the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) and Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) three months preceding the current pay-out month. The amount shall be divided proportionally between the two government-owned and controlled corporations in accordance with their respective revenue collection.

SEC. 3. The PAGCOR and PCSO shall jointly coordinate with the local government units, particularly the barangays, in the distribution of the monthly honoraria of the BHWs. The honoraria shall be released in two pay-out periods, every 15th and 30th day of the month.

SEC. 4. The apportioning and distribution of honoraria shall be subject to monitoring and audit by the Commission on Audit.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Budget and Management in coordination with the Department of Health, Department of Interior and Local Government, and other concerned government agencies shall formulate within one hundred eighty (180) days from its effectivity, the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, orders, issuances, circulars, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines, whichever comes earlier.

Approved.