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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4095



Introduced by Rep. Anna Katrina M. Enverga

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1991 Local Government Code views the barangay as the basic political unit. It also serve as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects and activities in the community and as a forum where the collective views of the people maybe expressed, crystallized and considered and where disputes maybe amicably settled. These functions encompass the political and administrative character of the barangay as a local government unit.

The maintenance of peace and order is part of the long-term foundation of genuine development. It is a shared responsibility between the national and local governments. In the promotion of public safety in the barangay level, Barangay Tanods are in the frontline of the service. They perform the difficult task as protectors of the community.

Due to the limited number of police, the barangay tanods now stand as front liners in securing the safety and peace and order of the community. The barangay tanods are the cutting edge in the implementation of the country's laws because they are the ones who coordinate and directly help the local government leaders and the police in intelligence gathering against the presence of lawless elements and terrorists in their respective areas.

Yet their services and commitment to the service are often ignored and not acknowledged as indicated by the inadequacy of the benefits received by them. Thus, being aware of this situation, the national government is not left without reason or justification to provide them with additional benefit programs.

Hence, this Bill is aimed at alleviating their plight and addressing their concerns. It is hoped that the passage of this Bill will show our genuine concern for our Barangay Tanods in appreciation for their services and commitment towards a peaceful and orderly community.

In view of the foregoing, approval of the Bill is earnestly sought.

ANNA KATRINAM. ENVERGA

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AN ACT PROVIDING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO ALL BARANGAY TANODS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION. 1. Title - This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Tanods Incentives Act of 2013".

- SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy It is the declared policy of the State to promote and enhance the efficiency and responsiveness of barangay officials including barangay tanods. Barangay Tanods, duly created under the Local Government Code, has an indispensable role in barangay government specifically in the maintenance and protection of peace and security and the promotion of public safety within the Barangay.
- **SEC. 3.** As used in this Act, Barangay Tanod refers to a brigade or body composed of civilian volunteers, duly created at the barangay level, assisting the barangay officials in the exercise of its law enforcement function specifically in maintaining peace and order and promotion of public order and safety in the barangay.
- **SEC. 4.** In addition to the benefits being extended to Barangay Tanods pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Code, a member of Barangay Tanod Brigade who has rendered continuous service for at least one year in any barangay unit shall, during his incumbency be entitled to the following:

(1) GSIS Benefit Coverage. Barangay Tanods shall be considered members of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and shall be covered with life insurance and social security protection, including retirement, disability, separation and unemployment benefits and such other benefits as maybe extended by the GSIS, subject to the limitations provided by law;

- (2) Health Benefits. Government medical and health insurance programs under existing laws shall include in their coverage free basic health services and medicines to Barangay Tanods;
- (3) Educational Benefits. Barangay Tanods shall, during his incumbency, be entitled to fifty percent (50%) discount in tuition and matriculation fees for his legitimate and legally adopted children, not exceeding three (3), attending any recognized state colleges and universities;
- (4) Tax Exemption. All amount received by Barangay Tanods as salaries, wages, compensation, remuneration and other emoluments, such as honoraria and allowances shall be exempt from income taxation. Gross benefits received by Barangay Tanods, of whatever kind or character, shall likewise be exempt from taxation.
- (5) Legal Representation. Barangay Tanods who maybe involved as party litigants in administrative or criminal cases filed in connection with the performance of their official duties, shall be entitled to the free legal services of the Public Attorney's Office or PAO who shall facilitate the legal representation of such Barangay Tanods by a counsel;
- SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination and consultation with the agencies concerned, shall promulgate and issue necessary implementing rules and regulations as maybe necessary for proper speedy and effective implementation of this Act.

- **SEC. 6.** *Repealing Clause.* All laws or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified as the case may be.
- **SEC. 7.** *Effectivity.-* This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.
- 7 APPROVED,