Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress

HOUSE BILL NO. 2576

First Regular Session



Introduced by Honorable Mark O. Go

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Barangay is the basic political unit in the Philippines. It is the building block with which democracy, progress, peace, and justice are built. The barangay is mandated by the Local Government Code to serve as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community, and as a forum wherein the collective views of the people may by expressed, crystallized and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled. As of March of this year, there are 42,045 barangays nationwide, each barangay being headed by barangay officials who are tasked with a wide array of responsibilities from ensuring the delivery of basic services, i.e., health, social, sanitation management, waste disposal, and environmental services, to enforcement of barangay ordinances and securing peace and order. The role of barangay officials and barangay workers is crucial in the delivery of the appropriate services to match the actual needs of people at the grassroots. Beyond the daily neighborhood affairs, barangay officials are vested with significant duties and responsibilities that serve as springboard to nation building.

The Local Government Code provides that compensation of a Punong Barangay shall not be less than One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00), while Sangguniang Barangay members, the Barangay Treasurer and the Barangay Secretary shall receive no less that Six Hundred Pesos (P600.00) These rates of compensation, subject to availability of funds, may however be increased to rates equivalent to Salary Grade 14 for the Punong Barangay, and Salary Grade 10 for the Sangguniang Barangay Members, Barangay Treasurer and Barangay Secretary as per DBM Budget Circular 63 dated October 22,1996. This highly discretionary system of compensation created huge disparities in the rates of compensation received by barangay officials nationwide. Likewise, SK officials, barangay tanods, members of the lupong tagapamayapa, Barangay Nutrition Action Officers, Barangay Nutrition Scholars, Barangay Health Workers, and Barangay Daycare Workers receive compensation only in the form of allowances and honoraria.

Barangay officials and barangay workers are the primary link of the government to the grassroots. They are the most accurate barometer of the public's pulse, and bring forth invaluable contributions in aligning our national development goals with our people's urgent needs and genuine concerns. Their compensation, and in effect their independence and efficiency in service should not be left vulnerable to a dynamic local political environment. It is towards this end that this bill seeks to standardize the rate of compensation received by barangay officials and barangay workers nationwide, in recognition of the prime importance of barangays in national development.

MARK O. GO

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

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AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE COMPENSATION AND OTHER BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND BARANGAY WORKERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Salaries of Barangay Officials. – The aggregate of salaries, allowances, and other emoluments of Punong Barangays, Sangguniang Barangay members, Sangguniang Kabataan Chairperson, Barangay Secretaries, and Barangay Treasurers in all Barangays shall be equivalent to the rate of the following salary grades in the city or municipality where the barangay belongs, provided that barangay officials receiving higher rates at the time of the effictivity of this Act shall not be subject to dimunition of pay:

- a) Punong Barangay Salary Grade 12
- b) Sangguniang Barangay members Salary Grade 9
- c) Barangay Secretary Salary Grade 9
- d) Barangay Treasurer Salary Grade 9
- e) Sangguniang Kabataan Chairperson Salary Grade 9
- SEC. 2. Compensation of Barangay Tanods and Members of Lupong Tagapamayapa The aggregate of honoraria, allowances, and other emoluments of Barangay Tanods shall be equivalent to the rate of Salary Grade 1 in the city of municipality where the barangay belongs, while the aggregate of honoraria, allowances, and other emoluments of Members of Lupong Tagapamayapa, Members of Sangguniang Kabataan (SK), SK Secretary and SK Treasurer shall be equivalent to sixty percent (60%) of the rate of Salary Grade 1 in the city or municipality where the barangay belongs, provided that barangay tanods and members of lupong tagapamayapa receiving higher rates at the time of the effictivity of this Act shall not be subject to dimunition of pay.
- SEC. 3 Compensation of Other Barangay Workers The aggregate of honoraria, allowances, and other emoluments of Barangay Nutrition Action Officer (BNAO), Barangay

Nutrition Scholars (BNS), Barangay Health Workers (BHW) and Barangay Daycare Workers shall be equivalent to the rate of Salary Grade 1 in the city or municipality where the barangay belongs, provided that said barangay workers receiving higher rates at the time of the effictivity of this Act shall not be subject to dimunition of pay.

- SEC. 4. Rates of Compensation. The rates of compensation shall be determined on the basis of the class and financial capability of each LGU and shall follow rates provided for in Section 10 of Republic Act No. 6758 or the "Compensation and Position Classification Act of 1989". Each city or municipality shall appropriate the necessary funds for the salaries and benefits of the barangay officials which shall be sourced from the Local Government Units funds.
- SEC. 5. Other Government Benefits Coverage. Coverage under the Government Insurance System (GSIS), PhilHealth, and Pag-ibig Fund, shall be extended to all barangay officials referred to in this Act.
- SEC. 6. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is declared unconsitutional or invalid, the remainder or any provisions thereof not affected shall remain in force and effect.
- SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. All laws, decress, executive orders and issuances proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof that 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 a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,