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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3349

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#### Introduced by HONORABLE ROGELIO D. PACQUIAO

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Barangay Officials play a critical role in nation building. They are in the forefront of public service as they work closely with the community on a day to day basis. They are expected to provide immediate response to the concerns of the people, and are the primary source of feedback and information on issues and problems that require special attention from higher officials.

This bill seeks to recognise the significance of barangay officials who govern the most basic political unit in our country by securing them with just benefits that valuate their services to the communities. By doing so, the state would be able to help them improve the quality of their lives and motivate them to serve the people to the best of their abilities.

It is of vital importance that we nurture the backbone of our government and strengthen it by assuring that it is given all the possible support to achieve optimum efficiency and to sustain the willingness of the people behind it to perform their best. As such, they shall be permitted to relish the same benefits given to all employees who work for the government.

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

ROGELIO D. PACQUIAO

Representative

Lone District, Province of Sarangani

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# "AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY OFFICIALS AS REGULAR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, ALLOCATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

**SECTION 1.** Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared a policy of the state to safeguard the well-being of barangay officials by providing appropriate benefits due them. The state affirms their significance as the frontline workers of the government and thus ensures that the social and economic status of barangay officials are properly uplifted.

SECTION 2. Barangay Officials as Regular Government Employees. Barangay officials such as the Punong Barangay, Sangguniang Barangay Members, the Sangguniang Kabataan Chairman, the Barangay Secretary and Barangay Treasurer shall be considered regular government employees and shall be entitled to all the benefits provided by the government which include fixed salaries, retirement benefits, bonuses etc.

**SECTION 3.** Fixed Salaries. As soon as the appropriate steps and measures are undertaken by each city or municipality in coordination with the individual barangay involved on matters relating to the sources of fund and the corresponding appropriation ordinance, which in no case shall be later than six (6) months from the approval hereof, all barangay officials stated in Section 2 hereof, shall be entitled to the following salaries:

Punong Barangay- An amount equivalent to the salary of a sangguniang bayan member of his municipality.

Six Sangguniang Barangay Members- An amount equivalent to eighty percent (80%) of the salary of a sangguniang bayan member of his municipality.

Kabataang Barangay Chairman, Barangay Secretary, Barangay Treasurer- For each, an amount equivalent to seventy-five percent (75%) of the salary of a sangguniang bayan member of his municipality.

**SECTION 4.** Retirement Benefits. Pursuant to RA 7160, Sec. 522, all barangay officials should be covered by insurance to be given by the GSIS. Additionally, as regular government employees, each barangay official shall be considered a GSIS member and shall be allowed to contribute monthly so as to receive monthly pension from the aforementioned agency after retirement.

**SECTION 5.** Bonuses. All barangay officials shall receive a year-end bonus equivalent to a month's basic salary, and productivity incentive like all other government employees.

**SECTION 6.** Other Benefits. All barangay officials shall be provided per diem to cover transportation, food, and other expenses which may be incurred in the performance of their official functions. They shall also automatically become members of PhilHealth and Pag-IBIG to assure assistance in their housing and health concerns.

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

**SECTION 8.** Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions thereof are not affected by such declaration and shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 9.** Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

Representative Lone District, Province of Sarangani