

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO.

Introduced by REP. ROMAN T. ROMULO Lone District, Pasig City

AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL INSURANCE BENEFITS TO BARANGAY CHAIRMEN, PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE PAYMENT OF ITS PREMIUMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes the role of *punong barangay* or barangay chairmen as the chief executive of the Barangay government mandated to exercise efficient, effective and economical governance and maintain peace and order for the general welfare of its barangay constituents.

Inherent to the roles of *punong barangay* are to keep peace by organizing foot patrols, arbitrate in differences between community members, assist in the conduct of elections, and facilitate the evacuation of communities in disaster-hit areas brought by natural and man-made calamities.

In the conduct of these functions, especially during emergencies and calamities, barangay chief executives are the front-liners, putting their lives at risk in the service of their respective constituents.

However, the State recognizes that the mandated duties of the barangay chairmen are not commensurate to their meager honoraria, allowances and other emoluments. Similarly, barangay chief executives are not entitled with hazard duty pay.

The associated risks of their functions also place higher premium to their insurance coverage. Most importantly, the present insurance benefits provided to all government officials, including all *punong barangay*, pursuant to Republic Act. No. 8291 (An Act Amending Presidential Decree 1146 as amended, expanding and increasing the coverage and benefits of Government Services and Insurance System (GSIS), instituting reforms therein, and for other purposes) is construed inadequate with regard to the payment of medical, death and burial expenses.

Hence, this bill seeks to provide additional insurance benefits to barangay chief executives over and above what they are currently receiving from GSIS in recognition of their contribution to the community and in advancing their welfare as public servants.

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

ROMAN T. ROMULO

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Additional 1 Barangay Captains' Insurance Act of 2019". 2 3 SEC. 2. Additional Insurance Benefits for Barangay Captains. - In 4 addition to the insurance benefits given to the Barangay Captains by the 5 Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) under Republic Act No. 8291, a 6 term insurance coverage to all barangay captains providing the following benefits 7 8 shall be granted: 9 P200,000.00 10 1. Death Benefits 11 (a) due to assassination or ambush 12 (b) due to accidents and other similar 13 circumstances while in the discharge 14 of their official functions 15 16 P 50,000.00 2. Burial Expenses 17 18 3. Reimbursement of Actual Medical 19 P100,000.00 20 Expenses not to exceed on ambushes, attempted assassinations not resulting in death, 2.1 accidents and other similar circumstances while in the discharge 22 of their official functions 23

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Approved,