

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1506

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
<b>RECEIVED</b>	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

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Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**  
**HON. GARY C. ALEJANO**

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**Explanatory Note**

Under Republic Act No. 8551, or the Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998, only college graduates are allowed to enter the police force and be part of the PNP organization. This particular provision presents downsides on the pool of applicants that could be recruited and on the force organization of the PNP. Since only college graduates are qualified to join the police force, many undergraduate applicants are stripped of the opportunity to become part of the organization and be able to serve and protect his countrymen. A considerable section of the population is no longer eligible, therefore, affecting the small number of applicants that could be recruited.

The existing police force is not sufficient to cover all functions. A whole lot of personnel are needed, in particular, for maneuver units. Then, it would be a favorable solution to allow recruitment of undergraduate applicants. Moreover, this would level the playing field for individuals who are underprivileged and cannot afford to go to college.

Maneuver units are tactical in nature. Usually, such units are engaged in internal security operations, crowd control and disaster response. Having 72 collegiate units, along with necessary rigorous training upon recruitment, would already be enough to acquire the basic competencies needed.

This bill seeks to amend Sections 14 and 15 of RA 8551 and lower the educational requirement for police applicants. This intends to solve the problems of having insufficient police force, and also, making the recruitment process for police officers and non-officers to be more inclusive.

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

  
HON. GARY C. ALEJANO

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**AN ACT**  
**AMENDING THE EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR POLICE APPLICANTS**  
**AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 AND 15 OF R.A 8551 AND FOR**  
**OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** Section 14 of Republic Act No. 8551, is hereby amended to  
2 read as follows:

3           “SECTION 14. Section 30 of Republic Act No. 6975 is hereby amended to  
4 read as follows:

5           SEC. 30. General Qualifications for Appointment – No person shall be  
6 appointed as officer or member of the PNP unless he or she possesses the  
7 following minimum qualifications:

8 xxx

9 (D) Must possess a formal baccalaureate degree **FOR APPOINTMENT AS**  
10 **OFFICER AND NON-OFFICER EXCEPT THOSE WHO WILL BE**  
11 **ASSIGNED AT MANEUVER UNITS WHO MUST HAVE FINISHED AT**  
12 **LEAST SECOND YEAR COLLEGE OR THE EQUIVALENT OF**  
13 **SEVENTY-TWO (72) COLLEGE UNITS; PROVIDED, THAT WHEN**  
14 **THEY FINISHED A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE, THEY MAY HAVE**  
15 **THE OPTION TO TRANSFER TO OTHER UNITS;**

16 xxx

1           **SECTION 2.** Section 15 of Republic Act No. 8551 is hereby amended  
2 to read as follows:

3           “SECTION 15. Waivers for Initial Appointments to the PNP. – The age  
4 **AND** weight for initial appointments for the PNP may be waived only when the  
5 number of qualified applicants fall below the minimum annual quota. Provided,  
6 that an applicant shall not be below eighteen (18) nor over thirty (30) years of  
7 age. Provided, further, that any applicant not meeting the weight requirement  
8 shall be given reasonable time but not exceeding six (6) months within which  
9 to comply with the said requirement: Provided, finally, that a waiver for height  
10 requirement shall be automatically granted to applicants belonging to the  
11 cultural communities.  
12

13           **SECTION 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The National  
14 Police Commission and the Philippine National Police shall promulgate the  
15 necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this act.  
16

17           **SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders,  
18 rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are  
19 inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed accordingly.  
20

21           **SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This act shall take effect after  
22 fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of national  
23 circulation.

Approved,