

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Constitution Hills, Quezon City



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**

First Regular Session

**3211**

**HOUSE BILL No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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**Introduced by RAM Party-list REPRESENTATIVE ALOYSIA T. LIM**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The task of defending our country's territorial integrity and sovereignty, and ensuring a secure environment for our people against internal and external threats, lies heavily on the shoulders of our men and women who served in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The task may be difficult and dangerous, but they serve honorably and courageously, so all of us can enjoy the benefits of freedom and democracy.

After years of dedicated service, the transition from military to civilian life had been difficult to most of our soldiers. Their return to civilian life is far from being simple. Most of them, especially those from the lower ranks were not able to save because their minimal salary was usually spent on raising their families and sending their children to school. So, the choice is always between total retirement or finding a new employment. However, looking for a job or engaging in a gainful endeavor has become a huge hurdle.

The process of transition from active duty to civilian life includes several considerations. Returning to family life and assuming active role in the family, adjusting to a different routine and structure, and acquiring new skills and entering into the competitive job market are few of the challenges they will encounter.

The aim of this measure is to create a Transition Assistance Program under the Department of National Defense to assist and support our men and women who, after serving in the military with dedication, will transition from active duty to veteran or retired life.

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

  
**ALOYSIA T. LIM**

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**AN ACT CREATING A TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF  
NATIONAL DEFENSE, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*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 “Military Transition Assistance Act”.

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy:*** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure that members of the armed forces shall be given adequate remuneration and benefits. Further, the State recognizes the sacrifice and contribution of our soldiers in the preservation of our freedom and democratic way of life.

**SECTION 3. *Coverage:*** This Act shall cover all members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines who retired or about to retire after an honorable service to the country.

**SECTION 4. *Transition Assistance Program:*** A Transition Assistance Program (TAP) and an appropriate system shall be created under the Department of National Defense to assist the transition of Filipino soldiers who retired or about to retire from active service.

**SECTION 5. *Transition Assistance Board:*** A Transition Assistance Board shall be created under the Department of National Defense to formulate guidelines, create a system of skills certification and design programs for employment, in consonance with the objectives of the Transition Assistance Program.

**SECTION 6. *Rules and Regulations:*** The Department of National Defense (DND) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 7. *Appropriations:*** The amount necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be sourced from the budget of the Department of National Defense (DND) which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

**SECTION 8. *Separability Clause:*** Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not affected shall be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause:*** All laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations and issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended, accordingly.

**SECTION 10. *Effectivity:*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the *Official Gazette* or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.