

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5541



Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**
Party-List Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Art. II, Section 15 of the Constitution states that: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." Health is a foremost concern given the consequences that follow if it is not properly monitored. Children would not be able to school, employees would be unable to work, and many vital functions in society would not be done if the individuals responsible for them would be sick.

Hence, there is a paramount consideration when it comes to measures ensuring that the population remains healthy. However, access to health services remain a challenge for policymakers. Besides the high price for mere consultations, the costs of medicines remain relatively high despite legislation to make such cheaper. Thus, even vulnerable families would opt to walk off disease because their budgetary constraints would not allow for one to see a doctor.

This is where barangay health workers come into the picture. Barangay health workers are amongst the frontline personnel in dealing with health in our communities. Coupled with sanitation services, barangay health workers enable the State to pursue and implement its preventive policies to ensure that each community is safe from illness.

Thus, it is only proper and right that the State should properly compensate our barangay health workers for the tireless and important work that they do. To ensure that each Filipino household is free from sickness, we must turn to our barangay health workers for the task at hand.

It is for these foregoing premises that the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS
Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party List

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AN ACT

MANDAATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE (1) BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER ASSIGNED TO EACH FAMILY, INCREASING THEIR SALARIES AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Provision of Barangay Health Worker.* – There shall be provided
2 at least one (1) health worker in every barangay assigned to each family throughout
3 the country. Such health worker shall be under the control and supervision of the
4 Department of Health (DOH) in close coordination with the Local Government
5 Health Officer. As far as practicable, the barangay health worker to be employed
6 must be living in the barangay where he/she is to be assigned, or within the city or
7 municipality in which the barangay is to be found.

8
9 SECTION 2. *Salary Grade and Other Benefits.* – The barangay health worker
10 shall receive monthly salary and benefits equivalent to a salary grade not lower
11 than SG10 pursuant to the current Salary Standardization Law in place for
12 government employees. In addition, the barangay health worker shall be entitled to
13 a Christmas bonus equivalent to their one (1) month salary, and all the benefits
14 granted to other barangay employees within their city or municipality, including
15 incentives and benefits under Republic Act No. 7883.

16
17 SECTION 3. *Appropriations.* – The sum of Twenty Million Pesos
18 (Php20,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the initial implementation of this
19 Act. Such amount as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this
20 Act shall be included and integrated in the General Appropriations Act as part of
21 the budget of the DOH.

22
23 SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DOH shall
24 promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within sixty (60)
25 days from the effectivity of this Act.

26
27 SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and
28 proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are
29 hereby amended or modified accordingly.
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1 SECTION 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
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4 Approved,
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