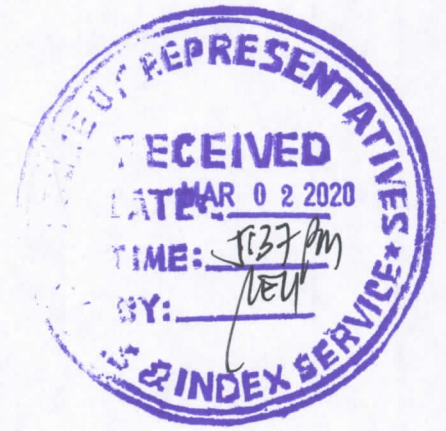


Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6437



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**INTRODUCED BY  
REP. ALFRED VARGAS**

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**AN ACT  
PROVIDING SECURITY OF TENURE FOR BARANGAY HEALTH  
WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 6 (D) OF  
REPUBLIC ACT 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "BARANGAY  
HEALTH WORKERS BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995"**

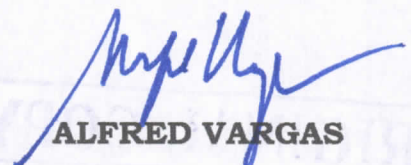
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As providers of front-line health services at the barangay level, Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) are collectively considered "guardians of the nation's health." Rightly so, as after undergoing proper training from the Department of Health (DOH), they perform a wide range of health care services such as: first aid, collecting vital statistics, records keeping, equipment sterilization, assisting in nutrition education, monitoring and feeding, assisting in immunization education, monitoring and dispensing, assisting in family planning services, among others.

The DOH acknowledges that the country still needs more BHWs. However, while Republic Act No. 7883 granted incentives and benefits to BHWs in 1995, it seems that the same are no longer enough to attract more BHWs. This may be because under RA 7883, BHWs will only be granted a second-grade civil service eligibility after five (5) years of continuous service. As such, their tenure is not secure.

This bill amends RA 7883 by shortening the number of years BHWs need to serve, from five years to two years of satisfactory service, to earn a second-grade civil eligibility. Hopefully, that will be enough incentive to enlarge our pool of guardians of the nation's health.

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

  
**ALFRED VARGAS**

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 6 (d) of Republic Act No. 7883 is hereby amended to  
read as follows:

**SEC. 6 Incentives and Benefits.** – In recognition of  
their services, all accredited barangay health workers  
who are actively and regularly performing their duties  
shall be entitled to the following incentives and benefits:  
"xxx

d) **Civil Service Eligibility.** – A second grade eligibility  
shall be granted to a barangay health worker who has  
rendered [five (5)] TWO (2) years OF continuous AND  
SATISFACTORY service [as such]: *Provided*, that THE  
LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD, GUIDED BY THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SHALL ESTABLISH  
STANDARDS FOR EVALUATING THE BHW'S  
PERFORMANCE TO MERIT A SATISFACTORY RATING;  
*PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT should the barangay health  
worker become a regular employee of the government,  
the total number of years served as barangay health



worker shall be credited to his or her service in computing retirement benefits.

NO PERSON DULY ACCREDITED AS BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER SHALL BE DISMISSED EXCEPT FOR CAUSE AS PROVIDED UNDER EXISTING CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND ONLY AFTER DUE NOTICE AND HEARING.

xxx”

**SECTION 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary of the Department of Health and the Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government shall formulate the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the effective implementation of this Act within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act.

**SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders and other presidential issuances which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*