Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No.

2815



Introduced by Representatives Estrellita B. Suansing and Horacio P. Suansing, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 384 of the Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 embodies and recognizes that the barangay, as the basic political unit, serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community, and as a forum wherein the collective views of the people may be expressed, crystallized and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled.

Thus, our barangay officials are the primary frontliners in the delivery of basic and public services to our countrymen. These community leaders unselfishly give their time and services for the welfare of the barangay and its residents. While in service, they receive minimal compensation and granted no benefits.

This proposed measure aims to give due importance to our barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the lupon ng tagapamayapa, a lump sum gratuity pay and other non-monetary benefits. These unsung heroes who dedicate and contribute not only their time but also their efforts and services in delivering basic and public needs of their constituency and in nation building should also be awarded with the recognition they truly deserve.

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

1ST District, Nueva Ecija

2nd District, Sultan Kudarat

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House Bill No.

Introduced by Representatives Estrellita B. Suansing and Horacio P. Suansing, Jr.

AN ACT

PROVIDING ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, A LUMP SUM GRATUITY PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS AND OTHER NON-MONETARY BENEFITS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

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

SECTION 1. Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby amended to read as follows:

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"SECTION 393. Benefits of Barangay Officials. – (a) Barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the lupong tagapamayapa shall receive honoraria, allowances, and such other emoluments as may be authorized by law or barangay, municipal or city ordinance in accordance with the provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than One thousand pesos (₱1,000.00) per month for the punong barangay and Six hundred pesos (₱600.00) per month for the sangguniang barangay members, and barangay treasurer, and barangay secretary: *Provided, however,* That the annual appropriations for personal services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under Title V, Book II of this Code.

- (b) The punong barangay, the sangguniang barangay members, the barangay treasurer, and the barangay secretary shall also:
- (1) Be entitled to Christmas bonus of at least One thousand pesos (₱1,000.00) each, the funds for which shall be taken from the general fund of the barangay or from such other funds appropriated by the national government for the purpose:
- (2) Be entitled, during their incumbency, to insurance coverage which shall include, but shall not be limited to temporary and permanent disability, double indemnity, accident insurance death and burial benefits, in accordance with Republic Act Numbered Sixty-nine hundred forty-two (R.A. No. 6942), entitled "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor."

(3) Be entitled to free medical care, including subsistence, medicines, and medical assistance in any government hospital or institution: *Provided*, That such hospital care shall include surgery or surgical expenses, medicinesm X-rays, laboratory fees, and other hospital expenses;

In case of extreme urgency where there is no available government hospital or institution, the barangay official concerned may submit himself for immediate attendance to the nearest private clinic, hospital or institution and the expenses not exceeding Five thousand pesos (\$\mathbb{P}\$5,000.00) that may be incurred therein shall be chargeable against the funds of the barangay concerned.

BARANGAY OFFICIALS SHALL ALSO BE ENTITLED TO TEN PERCENT (10%) DISCOUNT, AND EXEMPTION FROM VALUEADDED TAX (VAT), IF APPLICABLE, ON THE SALE OF GOODS AND SERVICES FROM ALL ESTABLISHMENTS, PARTICULARLY ON THE PURCHASE OF MEDICINES, AND SUCH ESSENTIAL MEDICAL SUPPLIES, ACCESSORIES AND EQUIPMENT TO BE DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH), AND ON THE PROFESSIONAL FEES OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR PHYSICIANS IN ALL PRIVATE HOSPITALS, MEDICAL FACILITIES, OUTPATIENT CLINICS AND HEALTH HOME CARE SERVICES.

- (4) Be exempted, during their incumbency, from paying tuition and matriculation fees for their legitimate dependent children attending state college or universities. He may likewise avail of such educational benefits in a state college or university located within the province or city to which the barangay belongs; [and]
- (5) Be entitled to appropriate civil service eligibility on the basis of the number of years of service to the barangay, pursuant to the rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission[.];
- (6) BE ENTITLED TO A LUMP SUM GRATUITY PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE (1) YEAR HONORARIUM, BUT IN NO CASE SHALL EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (₱100,000.00) TO BE TAKEN FROM THE BARANGAY RETIREMENT FUND: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A RETIREE IS AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OF AGE WITH A MINIMUM OF NINE (9) YEARS IN SERVICE AT THE TIME OF THE RETIREMENT.

AS USED IN THIS SUB-SECTION, THE TERM "RETIREE" SHALL INCLUDE ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA;

- (7) BE ENTITLED TO A FRANKING PRIVILEGE FOR THIS PURPOSE, BARANGAY OFFICIALS SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE PAYMENT OF POSTAGE ON ANY MAIL MATTER TO BE SENT TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS; AND
- (8) BE ENTITLED TO TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT IN TRANSPORTATION FARE AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATION CHARGE.

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SECTION 2. Barangay Retirement Fund (BRF). – There is hereby created a Barangay Retirement Fund (BRF) which shall be used to fund the retirement of barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the lupon ng tagapamayapa, as mentioned in this Act. The amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the share of the national government under Section 284 of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, shall be used for this purpose.

The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall administer and ensure the appropriate disbursement of the BRF.

- **SECTION 3.** *Rules and Regulations.* The Department of Budget and Management (DBM), in coordination with the DILG and Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.
- **SECTION 4.** Repealing Clause. All laws, executive order, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.
- **SECTION 5.** *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
- 17 Approved,