



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

3247

House Bill No. _____

Introduced by Representative Sergio C. Dagooc

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article 2, Section 9 of the 1987 Constitution states that "The state shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all."

Electricity plays a very vital role in our everyday lives and it is top priority to ensure the continuous supply of electrical service especially after natural disasters and calamities.

Utility work is essential for keeping electricity running in our homes, small and medium enterprises, and supply power to our industries. While continuous supply of electricity drives economic development, personal doing the dirty work to ensure this are risking their lives. Line workers may fall from electric posts, suffer electric shocks, burns, and other injuries while on the job every day, and these injuries in the worst cases result in the loss of life. By working on electrical lines, utility workers face some of the most dangerous tasks in the industry.

As such, it is just proper that line worker get not only the proper compensation but also extra benefits in exchange for the risks that they face on the job. The State should mandate certain benefits as well as increased insurance coverage for line workers, who serve as our warriors of light. Like men and women in uniform, the life of line workers are always at risk. And if we grant increased benefits to our uniformed personnel, we should also give what is due to those who work the line.

The passage of this bill is earnestly and sincerely sought.

SERGIO C. DAGOOC
APEC Partylist Representative



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**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL INSURANCE COVERAGE
AND BENEFITS FOR ALL LINEMEN AND OTHER POWER LINE
WOKERS AND OTHER RELATED PURPOSES”**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title** – This Act shall be known as the “**Lineworker**
2 **Appreciation and Benefits Act.**”

3 **SECTION 2. Declaration of State Policy** – The State recognizes the role of our
4 electrical line workers in its quest for sustainable economic development
5 through the continuous and reliable supply of electricity, not only in our homes
6 but to our industries and other businesses, specifically in the countryside and
7 rural areas, as envisioned by the Rural Electrification Program. As such, it shall
8 guarantee measures to acknowledge their contributions to the power utility
9 sector through additional insurance coverage and benefits.

10 **SECTION 3. Lineworker; defined.** - For purposes of this Act, a line worker
11 shall be defined as any person whose duty and responsibility is to construct and
12 maintain electric power transmission and distributional lines. They are directly
13 responsible for, including, but not limited to, the installation, maintenance,
14 reconstruction, and repair of overhead electrical lines, underground cables,
15 electrical substations, and other related electrical equipment and facilities.

16 **SECTION 4. Coverage** – This Act shall cover all line workers in the energy
17 sector including those of private utilities and electric cooperatives.

18 **SECTION 5. Additional Insurance Coverage and Benefits** - In addition to any
19 existing insurance coverage and benefits given to line workers, employers are
20 required to obtain additional insurance coverage for all line workers in the
21 electric industry of not less than One Million (Php 1,000,000.00) Pesos, the
22 premiums of which are to be shouldered by the employer.

23 The employers of line workers shall also provide for the following additional
24 benefits:

25 (a) Retirement Package equivalent to 6-month salary based on the
26 amount of basic pay at the time of retirement for line workers
27 serving the company for not less than five (5) years. This
28 Retirement package will increase to one (1) year salary, if length
29 of service of the line work is ten (10) years or more;

30 (b) Mortuary Assistance of Five Hundred Thousand (Php 500,00.00)
31 Pesos for ordinary deaths but this benefit will be tripled if the line
32 worker died while in line of duty;

33 (c) Disability benefits of up to Five Hundred Thousand (Php
34 500,000) Pesos for all linemen who shall suffer total or partial
35 disability, whether permanent or temporary, arising from any
36 injury sustained in the line of duty;

37 (d) Reimbursement of actual medical expenses up to, but not
38 exceeding, Three Hundred Thousand (Php 300,000) Pesos for all
39 linemen who shall be hospitalized or who shall require medical
40 attendance for injuries sustained while in the line of duty. This
41 benefit shall be on top of other health insurance coverage or
42 Philhealth reimbursement, as the case may be

43 **SECTION 6.** Line Worker Appreciation Day – The first Monday of August of
44 every year is hereby declared as National Line Worker Appreciation Day.
45 Pursuant to this, the National Electrification Administration (NEA) shall
46 prepare and implement the annual national convention as part of its program.
47 Private distribution utilities and electric cooperatives shall likewise support the
48 NEA in all its efforts to promote and facilitate related activities for the purpose.

49 **SECTION 7.** Disqualifications from Benefits – No benefits shall be given to
50 any line workers or his beneficiaries if and when the death, injury, or sickness
51 is occasioned or caused by any of the following:

- 52 (a) Willful intention to injure or kill oneself;
53 (b) Notorious negligence
54 (c) Commission of a crime by the line worker
55 (d) Unauthorized absence or abandonment of office

56 **SECTION 8.** *Implementing Rules and Regulations* – The National
57 Electrification Administration, shall promulgate and issue the Implementing
58 Rules and Regulations within sixty (60) days upon approval of this Act.

59 **SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause*** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive
60 orders, letters of instruction, administrative rules and regulations or parts
61 thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
62 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

63 **SECTION 10. *Separability Clause*** – Should any part or provision of this Act
64 be held unconstitutional or invalid, all other provisions hereof which are not
65 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

66 **SECTION 11. *Effectivity***. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
67 following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2)
68 newspapers of general circulation whichever is earlier.

69
70 **Approved.**