

Republic of the Philippines House of Representatives

Batasan Hills, Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress First Regular Session

5200

HOUSE BILL NO.



Introduced by Representative Florencio Gabriel "Bem" G. Noel

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In these times of divisiveness, volunteerism should be encouraged so that we can experiences unity and start building our nation as one. People should be encouraged to care for their fellow Filipinos and not fear any liabilities when they do so. Being a good Samaritan should be encouraged through proper legislation so we can sow seeds of good deeds in our nation.

A good Samaritan is a person who helps other people in need without asking for anything in return. It also means a person that has empathy for fellow Filipinos and also has the ability to help them.

In this bill, good Samaritans are individuals that volunteer to offer their services to other people that are in emergency situations. They will be protected from any liability as long as they are acting in an emergency situation and they have the proper license, certificate or authorization to do the activities needed in the emergency. If any harm was caused, they shall not be liable as long as the harm was not caused by willful or unlawful misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or a conscious, flagrant, indifference to the rights of or safety of another

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

FLORENCIO GABRIEL "BEM" G. NOEL **An Waray Partylist Representative**



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AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE GOOD SAMARITANS WHO PROVIDE REASONABLE ASSISTANCE IN AN EMERGENCY BY PROTECTING THEM FROM LIABILITY

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. — This Act shall be known as the "Good Samaritan Act of 2019."

Sec. 2. *Policy*. — It is the policy of the State to encourage good Samaritans who provide reasonable assistance in an emergency by protecting them from liability.

Sec. 3. Definitions. — For purposes of this Act:

- a) "Good Samaritan" shall refer to an individual performing volunteer services who does not receive compensation to reasonably assist a person in an emergency.
- b) "Emergency" shall refer to a situation requiring immediate attention and remedial action involving a sudden, unexpected, and impending threat to life, health, or safety of a person.
- **Sec. 4**. *Liability Protection for Good Samaritans*. No good samaritan shall be liable for harm caused by an act or omission if:
 - 1. the good samaritan was acting in an emergency at the time of the act or omission;
 - 2. if appropriate or required, the good samaritan was properly licensed, certified, or authorized by the appropriate authorities for the activities undertaken in an emergency at the time of the act or omission; and

- 3. the harm was not caused by willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual harmed by the good samaritan.
- **Sec. 5.** *Exceptions.* The liability protection for good samaritans under this Act shall not apply to misconduct that:
 - 1. constitutes a crime; or
 - 2. was performed under the influence of intoxicating alcohol or any dangerous drug at the time of the misconduct.
- Sec. 6. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- Sec. 7. Separability Clause. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.
- **Sec. 8.** *Effectivity.* —This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,