

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 760

Introduced by Representative Harlin Cast. Abayon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The attached bill is in response to numerous resolutions, letters and petitions from many barangays officials from different areas in the country for an increase in the minimum monthly honoraria or compensation being given under Section 393 of the Local Government Code. The common reason is that the amount of P 1,000.00 for punong barangay and P 600.00 monthly for the other barangay officials has become too small to even satisfy their basic needs for three days. They claimed that since the enactment of the Code, the value of food items has increased to much, along with other basic needs, like clothes and other personal items has increased so much, along with other basic needs, like clothes and other personal items that have to be purchased by barangay officials to make them appear respectable in the community.

At present, barangay official receive emoluments in the form of honoraria and other allowances as may be authorized by law, municipal or city ordinance. Such honoraria amount to not less than One Thousand Pesos (P 1,000.00) per month for the punong barangay and Six Hundred Pesos (P 600.00) per month for the sangguniang barangay members, barangay treasurer and barangay secretary.

The barangay officials are primarily tasked with the responsibility of planning and implementing government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community. They are in the forefront of the government's primordial responsibility of bringing the benefits of government to the grassroots. They are responsible in the maintenance of the peace and order in the barangay. They are the shock absorber in the speedy resolution of disputes. It appears that the compensation of barangay official is not commensurate with their multifarious functions and responsibilities.

While other government officials and employees receive yearly increases since 1992, the government failed to include barangay officials in the pay increases. It may be noted that the amount of
P 1, 000.00 for the punong barangay and P 600.00 for the other barangay officials are considered minimal or meager, taking into account the value of basic commodities.

The Bill, therefore, proposes to increase the minimum amount honoraria, allowances and other emoluments prescribed under Section 393 of the Local Government Code from P 1,000.00 to P 5,000.00 for the punong barangay and

from P 600.00 to P 4,000.00 for each sangguniang barangay members, barangay treasurer and barangay secretary. Also proposed to be increased in the bill is the hospitalization benefit in any government hospital or institution, the barangay official concerned may submit himself for immediate medical attendance to the nearest private hospitals from P 5,000.00 to P 7,000.00.

Hence, early approval of the bill is requested.

HARLIN CAST. ABAYON

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AN ACT
INCREASING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991.

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

SECTION 1. Subparagraphs (a) and (b-3) of Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 393. Benefits of Barangay Officials. – (a) Barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of lupon 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 FIVE (One) thousand pesos (P 5,000.00) (P 1,000.00) per month for the punong barangay and **FOUR THOUSAND** (Six Hundred) pesos (P 4,000.00) (P600.00) per month for the Sangguniang Barangay Members, Barangay Treasurer, and Barangay Secretary; *Provide, however,* That the annual appropriations for personal services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under Title Five, Book II of this code.

"(b) The Punong Barangay, the sangguniang barangay members, the barangay treasurer, and the barangay secretary shall also:

"(c) Be entitled to free medical care including subsistence, medicines, and medical attendance in any government hospital or institution: Provided, That such hopital care shall include surgery or surgical expenses, medicines, 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 medical attendance to the nearest private clinic, hospital or institution and the expenses not exceeding SEVEN (Five) Thousand FIVE HUNDRED Pesos (P 7,500.00) (P 5,000.00) that may be incurred therein shall be chargeable against the funds of the barangay concerned."

SEC. 2. Any provision of law, act executive order, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,