

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **1649**



Introduced by Honorable **EILEEN ERMITA - BUHAIN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Section 6 of Republic Act No. 7883 or the Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995 by granting them a fixed monthly honorarium and insurance coverage.

Barangay Health Workers play a vital role in the country's health care delivery system. Through them, the people in the barangays avail of primary health care services which could not extensively be given by our diminishing number of health workers specifically by our doctors and nurses. And over the years, these workers, commonly referred to as BHWs have become such a strong presence in the countryside that they are often tapped by the government and the private sectors in the implementation of health and other related social development programs and projects.

While Republic Act 7883 recognized the valuable contribution of the Barangay Health Workers, it fell short of providing these men and women with the commensurate incentives for the services they render. Although hazard and subsistence allowances are provided these volunteers, there is a greater need for them to be provided with a fixed monthly honorarium and insurance cover given the nature of their work as health frontliners.

This bill then seeks to address this concern. In view of the foregoing premises, approval of this bill is then earnestly sought.


EILEEN ERMITA - BUHAIN

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AN ACT
GRANTING FIXED MONTHLY HONORARIA AND OTHER BENEFITS TO
ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS ACT
OF 1995

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

SECTION 1. Section 6 of Republic Act 7883 otherwise known as the "Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995," 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:

- a) **HONORARIA** - ALL ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A MONTHLY HONORARIA OF THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000.00).
- b) **Subsistence Allowance** - Barangay Health Workers who rendered services within the premises of isolated health stations in order to make their services available at any and all times shall be entitled to a monthly subsistence allowance, which shall be computed in accordance with the prevailing circumstances as determined by the local government unit concerned BUT IN NO CASE LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000.00);

c) **INSURANCE COVERAGE – ALL BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS ARE GRANTED INSURANCE COVERAGE BY THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM OR ANY ACCREDITED INSURANCE COMPANY IN AN AMOUNT NOT LESS THAN TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00).**

d) **Hazard allowance x x x x**

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,