

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 1709

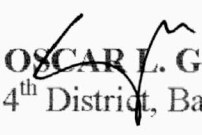
INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE OSCAR L. GOZOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

More than a decade since the enactment of Republic Act No. 6942, otherwise known as "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor", on April 4, 1990, the monetary value of the benefits stated therein have remained unchanged despite the steep depreciation in the economic value of the Philippine currency.

There is no question that the "marked down" peso has lost much of its original value, yet the amounts of insurance benefits given to local government officials have remained at the same levels as they were eleven years ago. If we are able to appreciate and give life to the wisdom that moved the framers of the said Act to grant these benefits to our local officials, it is only then that we would be in a position to truly comprehend the judiciousness of this amendatory proposition.

In fact, even our Supreme Court, in a long line of cases, has calculatingly placed the value of life of a person at P50,000.00 at the minimum. I therefore see no reason to deviate from this holding especially when the people to be benefited are those who opted to be of service to the people and the government. Considering that the benefits are meant to compensate the officials concerned and/or their immediate relatives from the unfortunate happening of the stated events insured against, why can we not give the equivalent economic value now of these benefits at the same levels as they used to be at the time R.A. 6942 was passed.


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AN ACT INCREASING FURTHER THE INSURANCE BENEFITS OF
LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6942, AND PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Section Two of Republic Act no. 6942 is hereby amended to
read as follows:

“Sec.2. Death and Burial Benefits.-In the event of death of an insured official during his incumbency, the beneficiaries of a punong barangay or a member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod or sangguniang bayan shall be entitled to **Fifty** thousand pesos (**P 50,000.00**) while the beneficiaries of a member of the sangguniang barangay, barangay secretary, barangay treasurer or chairman of the kabataang barangay shall be entitled to **Thirty** thousand pesos (**P 30,000.00**). In addition to the death benefits herein provided, a burial benefit of **Twenty** thousand pesos (**P 20,000.00**) shall be paid to the beneficiaries within twenty-four (24) hours after written notice and satisfactory proof of death.

Should a barangay chairman be assassinated or killed while in the performance of his duties or on the occasion thereof, his beneficiaries shall be entitled to double the amounts of indemnity provided above.”

SECTION 2. Section three of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec.3. Total and Permanent Incapacity or Disability.-In the event of total and permanent incapacity or disability as determined by the Government Service Insurance System, hereinafter referred to as the System, a punong barangay or a member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod or sangguniang bayan shall be entitled to **Thirty** thousand pesos (**P 30,000.00**) while a member of the sangguniang barangay, barangay secretary, barangay treasurer or chairman of the kabataang barangay shall be entitled to **Twenty** thousand pesos (**P 20,000.00**); Provided, That the disability occurred during his incumbency whether work-connected or not. In addition to the disability benefits herein provided, a burial benefit of **Twenty** thousand pesos (**P 20,000.00**) shall be paid to his beneficiaries in the event that death occurs within two (2) years from the onset of total and permanent incapacity or disability.

Anyone availing of the benefit under this section cannot benefit from Sections Two, Four and Five hereof.”

SECTION. 3. Section Four of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“ Sec.4. Injuries Resulting from Accident.- For injuries resulting from an accident occurring during his incumbency, whether work-connected or not, a punong barangay or a member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod or sangguniang bayan shall be entitled to the following benefits which in no case shall exceed the maximum benefit of **Twenty** thousand pesos (**P 20,000.00**) per covered year:

(a) For an injury to the brain resulting in the loss of sanity, **Twenty** thousand pesos (**P 20,000.00**);

(b) For permanent loss of sight in both eyes, **Twenty** thousand pesos (**P 20,000.00**);

(c) For permanent loss of sense of hearing in both ears, **Sixteen** thousand pesos (**P 16,000.00**);

(d) For permanent loss of sight in one eye, **Ten** thousand pesos (**P 10,000.00**);

(e) For permanent loss of sense of smell and sense of taste, and hearing in one ear, **Ten** thousand pesos (**P 10,000.00**);

(f) For the loss or destruction of two or more limbs, **Twenty** thousand pesos (**P 20,000.00**);

(g) For the loss of one limb, **Ten** thousand pesos (**P 10,000.00**);

(h) For the loss or destruction of both hands at or above the wrists, **Sixteen** thousand pesos (**P 16,000.00**);

(i) For the loss or destruction of both feet at or above the ankles, **Sixteen** thousand pesos (**P 16,000.00**);

(j) For the loss or destruction of one hand at or above the wrist, **Ten** thousand pesos (**P 10,000.00**);

(k) For the loss or destruction of one foot at or above the ankle, **Ten** thousand pesos (**P 10,000.00**);

(l) For the loss or destruction of every thumb or great toe, **Two thousand five hundred** pesos (**P 2,500.00**);

(m) For the loss or destruction of every finger or toe, **One** thousand pesos (**P 1,000.00**);

(n) For any other injury requiring hospitalization of at least forty (40) days, **Eight** thousand pesos (**P 8,000.00**), and in cases where the hospitalization is less than forty (40) days, at such amount not exceeding **Four** thousand pesos (**P 4,000.00**) as determined by the System and prescribed in its rules and regulations issued pursuant to the provisions of this Act; and

(o) For any other injury not requiring hospitalization but requiring medical attention for at least fifteen (15) days, **Five** thousand pesos (**P 5,000.00**), and in cases where the medical attention extended is less than fifteen (15) days, at such amount not exceeding **Two thousand five hundred** pesos (**P 2,500.00**) as determined by the System in its rules and regulations issued pursuant to the provisions of this Act.”

SECTION 4. Section Five of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“ **Sec.5. Injuries Resulting from Accident of other Barangay Officials.-** For injuries resulting from an accident occurring during his incumbency, whether work-connected or not, a member of the sangguniang barangay, barangay

secretary, barangay treasurer or chairman of the kabataang barangay shall be entitled to the following benefits which in no case shall exceed the maximum benefit of **Ten thousand pesos (P 10,000.00)** per covered year :

(a) For an injury to the brain resulting in the loss of sanity, **Ten thousand pesos (P 10,000.00)**;

(b) For permanent loss of sight in both eyes, **Ten thousand pesos (P 10,000.00)**;

(c) For permanent loss of sense of hearing in both ears, **Eight thousand pesos (P 8,000.00)**;

(d) For permanent loss of sight in one eye, **Five thousand pesos (P 5,000.00)**;

(e) For permanent loss of sense of hearing in one ear, **Four thousand pesos (P 4,000.00)**;

(f) For the loss or destruction of two or more limbs, **Ten thousand pesos (P 10,000.00)**;

(g) For the loss of one limb, **Five thousand pesos (P 5,000.00)**;

(h) For the loss or destruction of both hands at or above the wrists, **Eight thousand pesos (P 8,000.00)**;

(I) For the loss or destruction of both feet at or above the ankles, **Eight thousand pesos (P 8,000.00)**;

(j) For the loss or destruction of one hand at or above the wrist, **Four thousand pesos (P 4,000.00)**;

(k) For the loss or destruction of one foot at or above the ankle, **Four thousand pesos (P 4,000.00)**;

(l) For the loss or destruction of every thumb or great toe, **Two thousand five hundred pesos (P 2,500.00)**;

(m) For the loss or destruction of every finger or toe, **One thousand pesos (P 1,000.00)**;

(n) For any other injury requiring hospitalization of at least forty (40) days, **Eight** thousand pesos (**P 8,000.00**), and in cases where the hospitalization is less than forty (40) days, at such amount not exceeding **Four** thousand pesos (**P 4,000.00**) as determined by the System and prescribed in its rules and regulations issued pursuant to the provisions of this Act; and

(o) For any other injury not requiring hospitalization but requiring medical attention for at least seven (7) days, **One thousand five hundred** pesos (**P 1,500.00**).”

SECTION 5. The amount needed to carry out the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved, _____.