

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1790

Introduced by: **REP. PROSPERO A. PICHAY, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The barangay is the smallest unit of government. Yet, it is considered as the microcosm of governance wherein legislative, executive and judicial powers are exercised. Barangay officials perform a myriad of functions which may not be as lofty as policy making and management of the affairs of the state but are equally as important and vital to nation-building. These include enactment of ordinances; law enforcement; maintenance of peace and order; implementation of infrastructure projects; delivery of welfare and basic services such as health, education, sanitation, and water system; emergency relief operations, and settlement and arbitration of disputes.

Being at the forefront of public service, the barangay captain, his/her council and officials bear the brunt of the people's woes from cradle to grave --- maternity, baptismal, employment, financial, medical emergency, funeral and even personal problems. They have to respond to different predicaments which more often than not compel them to dole out hard cash more than they can possibly earn in a month. From early morning to the wee hours of the night, the masses, particularly in the countryside, turn to them for assistance and/or direct link to the higher echelons of government.

In recognition of the invaluable service rendered by barangay officials, this bill seeks to increase the minimum monthly allowances/honoraria from One Thousand Pesos (P1,000) to Six Thousand Pesos (P6,000) for barangay captains and from Six Hundred Pesos (P600) to Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000) for the sangguniang barangay members, barangay secretaries, and barangay treasurers. It also grants retirement benefits to all barangay officials who have served at least nine (9) years of cumulative service a lump sum retirement benefit equivalent to seventy-five percent (75%) of their monthly allowance/honorarium per year of service.

Building of the people's trust in and support for government concomitantly demands the strengthening of barangays as pillars of

participatory democracy. Towards this end, early approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

PROSPERO A. PICHAY, JR.



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AN ACT
INCREASING THE ALLOWANCES/HONORARIA OF AND GRANTING RETIREMENT BENEFITS TO ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"

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

SECTION 1. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of Section 393 of Republic Act 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 the lupong 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 less than [One Thousand] SIX THOUSAND Pesos [(P1,000.00)] (P6,000.00) per month for the punong barangay and [Six Hundred] THREE THOUSAND Pesos [(P600.00)] (P3,000.00) per month for sangguniang barangay members, barangay treasurer, and barangay secretary: Provided 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:

"X X X

(6) BE ENTITLED, AFTER HAVING RENDERED AN AGGREGATE PERIOD OF AT LEAST NINE (9) YEARS OF SERVICE AND UPON REACHING THE AGE OF SIXTY-FIVE YEARS, TO A LUMP SUM OF BENEFIT EQUIVALENT TO SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF THE HIGHEST RATE OF MONTHLY ALLOWANCE/HONORARIUM RECEIVED BY SAID OFFICIAL PER YEAR OF SERVICE."

SEC. 2. For this purpose, the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) shall establish and administer an appropriate system under which the punong barangay, the members of the sangguniang barangay, the barangay treasurer, and the barangay secretary shall enjoy retirement and other benefits accruing thereunder. The GSIS shall undertake actuarial study, issue rules and regulations, determine the contributions payable, and recommend to the Congress the amount of appropriations needed to support the system.

SEC. 3. The initial amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of Interior and Local Government under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum a may be needed for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,