

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

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 2439

Introduced by Honorable Catalino V. Figueroa

EXPLANATORY NOTE

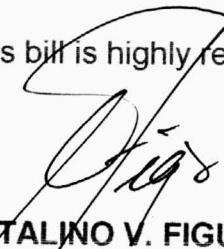
This bill aims to address to the situation wherein, the Marines, as an organization, have no basis in law unlike its major armed services, it was not created by an act of Congress but was created simply on the basis of AFP General Order No. 319, 1950 and its expansion through the years had been through this procedure. By enactment of a Philippine Marine Corps Act, this bill will provide for the maintenance and admission of the Marines as a separate major unit of the Philippine Navy.

Since its conception on 02 November 1950 by then Defense Secretary Ramon Magsaysay, the Marines have suppressed insurgent elements, assisted in rescue and relief operations, provided ceremonial and security services and a host of other services in the country. From its small "A" company in the 1950's, the Marines have grown into a full-pledged brigade known for its discipline, professionalism, and for getting the job done. There is no doubt that the Philippine Marine Corps, as a separate unit of the Philippine Navy, has served the country well.

In spite of its contribution to security, however, the Marine Corps does not enjoy a proportionate status in relation to its mother unit, the Philippine Navy. There is concern among marine quarters that they are not receiving a fair allocation of resources, material and other support as opposed to the large allotment to the Navy.

It is hoped that with the approval of this bill, the Marines will now receive a fair allocation of funds, materials, and having their own personnel.

In view thereof, approval of this bill is highly recommended.


CATALINO V. FIGUEROA

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

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2439

Introduced by Honorable Catalino V. Figueroa

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE
PHILIPPINE MARINE CORPS AS A SEPARATE MAJOR UNIT OF THE
PHILIPPINE NAVY, PRESCRIBING ITS MISSION AND FUNCTIONS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Marines Corps Act."

SECTION 2. *Philippine Marine Corps.* The Philippine Marine Corps, hereinafter referred to as the Corps, shall be administered and maintained as a separate major unit of the Philippine Navy, and shall be trained and equipped for the effective discharge of its mission and functions. The Corps shall be headed by a Commandant who shall be a Flag Officer.

SECTION 3. *Mission.* The mission of the Corps is to provide combat armed units in amphibious and other operations to accomplish naval objectives and to participate in government designed to protect and save lives, properties and the environment.

SECTION 4. *Functions.* The Corps shall perform the following functions:

- a) provide units for amphibious operations, choke point control, coastal defense and riverine operations;
- b) maintain combat-ready forces;
- c) provide security to naval operating bases and other vital government installations;
- d) develop, in coordination with other services, doctrines, tactics, techniques and equipment employed by landing forces in amphibious operations and riverine operations;
- e) organize, train and equip the marine reserves;
- f) assist in disaster rescue and relief operations;
- g) participate in the implementation of the government's program to protect and preserve the natural resources and the environment;
- h) provide ceremonial escorts and other security duties; and

- i) perform such functions as the President or Congress may direct.

SECTION 5. *Organization of the Corps.* Subject to the concurrence of the Flag Officer in Command of the Philippine Navy with the approval of the Secretary of National Defense, the Commandant of the Corps shall organize the Corps into operational units and equip the same as maybe necessary for the effective discharge of its functions.

SECTION 6. *Administration.* The Flag Officer in Command of the Philippine Navy shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the administration of the Corps.

SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* To carry out the purposes of this Act, the amount necessary for the implementation shall be charged to the share of the Corps in the current appropriation of the Philippine Navy. Thereafter, the sum shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Approval.* This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,