

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

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2710

Introduced by HON. AMADO T. ESPINO, JR.

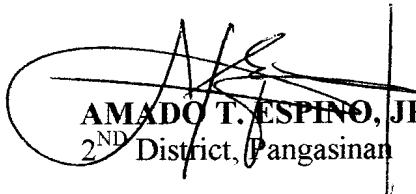
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The framers of Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 completely recognized the vital role being played by barangay officials in the performance of their day-to-day duties and responsibilities. To complement the awesome powers and responsibilities bestowed upon local government units, the Local Government Code explicitly granted benefits to barangay officials. It is unfortunate however, that when the benefits were granted at that time, the value of the Philippine peso to the American dollar was hovering around P22.00 to P25.00 and has therefore been rendered less worthy by the passage of time.

This bill seeks to increase the honoraria or allowances granted to barangay officials from a minimum of One thousand pesos (P1, 000.00) to Two thousand five hundred pesos (P2, 500.00) per month for the punong barangay, One thousand eight hundred pesos (P1, 800.00) for Sangguniang barangay members and One thousand five hundred pesos (P1, 500.00) for barangay treasurer, secretary and barangay tanods. This increase will certainly be a big help for these barangay officials to cope with the spiraling cost of prime commodities and this will be translated into efficient and effective community service.

This bill also recognizes the government's difficulty in raising revenues to meet its various financial obligations. For which reason, instead of giving additional financial burden to the national government, this bill proposes that all barangays must contribute two percent (2%) of their income to the National Benefits Augmentation Fund, which shall be used to augment existing allocation and honoraria of barangays to barangay officials.

In view of the foregoing reasons, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


AMADO T. ESPINO, JR.
2ND District, Pangasinan

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Introduced by **HON. AMADO T. ESPINO, JR.**

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, CREATING A
NATIONAL AUGMENTATION FUND, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 393. Benefits of Barangay Officials. – (a) Barangay Officials, including barangay tanods and members in the lupong tagapamayapa, shall receive honoraria, allowances, and such other emoluments as may be authorized by law or barangay, municipal or city or ordinance with the provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than {One thousand pesos (P1, 000.00)} **TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P2, 500.00)** per month for lupong barangay,[and six hundred pesos (P600.00)]**ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED PESOS (P1, 800.00)** per month for the sangguniang barangay members, **AND ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P1, 500.00)** per month for barangay treasurers, 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:

- (1) Be entitled to Christmas Bonus of at least [One thousand pesos (P1, 000.00)] **TWO THOUSAND PESOS (p2, 000.00)** each, the funds for which shall be taken from the general fund of the barangay or from such other funds appropriated by the national government for the purpose;
- (2) Be entitled, during their incumbency, to insurance coverage which shall include, but shall not be limited to temporary and permanent disability, double indemnity, accident insurance, death and burial benefits, in accordance with Republic Act Numbered Sixty-nine hundred forty-two (R.A. No. 6942), entitled, “Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefore”
- (3) Be entitled to free medical care including subsistence, medicines, and medical attendance in any government hospital or institution: Provided, that such hospital care shall include surgery or surgical expenses, medicines, X-rays, laboratory fees, and other hospital expenses;

In case of extreme urgency 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 [Five thousand pesos (P5, 000.00)] **TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10, 000.00)** that may be incurred therein shall be chargeable against the funds of the barangay concerned;

- (4) Be exempted during their incumbency from paying tuition and matriculation fees for their legitimate dependent children attending state college or universities. He may likewise avail of such educational benefits in a state college or university located within the province or city to which the barangay belongs; and
- (5) Be entitled to appropriate civil service eligibility on the basis of the number of years of service to the barangay, pursuant to the rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission.

(c) Elective barangay officials shall have preference in appointment to any government position or any government-owned or controlled corporations, including their subsidiaries, after their tenure of office, subject to the requisite qualifications and the provisions of the immediately preceding paragraph.

(d) All duly appointed members of the barangay tanod brigades, or their equivalent, which shall number not more than twenty (20) in each barangay, shall be granted **A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P1, 500.00) AND** insurance or other benefits during their incumbency, chargeable to the barangay or the city or municipal government to which the barangay belongs.

SECTION 2. National Barangay Benefits Augmentation Fund Created. – There is hereby created a National Barangay benefits Augmentation Fund (NBBAF) which shall be used to augment existing allocation of allowance and honoraria of barangays to barangay officials and workers provided for in this Act.

The Oversight Committee on Devolution shall administer and ensure the appropriate disbursement of the fund. The National Barangay Operations Office of the Department of Interior and Local Government shall act as the secretariat of the Oversight Committee on Devolution and shall assist the Committee in the proper administration of the fund. The fund shall be released to the concerned barangays by the Department of Budget and Management, upon adoption of a resolution by the Committee directing the Department to implement the same.

SECTION 3. Funding. – To implement the provisions of this Act, all barangays shall contribute two percent (2%) of their income to the National Barangay Benefits Augmentation Fund.

SECTION 4. Rules and Regulations. – The oversight Committee on Devolution shall, within six (6) months from effectivity of this Act, formulate and issue the appropriate rules and regulations necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. Effectivity.– This Act take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,