

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2740



Introduced by Honorable Uliran T. Joaquin

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A nation cannot achieve true development when the character of its people as individuals and as a community, are without a strong and balance set of values for oneself and for their society.

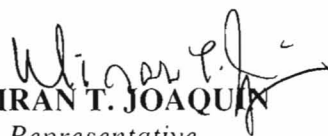
Progressive educational institutions have recognized the importance of addressing the need of their pupils for guidance counseling service to balance the students' character values on education and profession while growing up as unique individuals in their families and communities.

Advancement in the field of science, technology and production skills widened the opportunities to earn wages and profit better as individuals in a developing country. This far reaching economic development have indeed boosted our family and individual annual incomes, but this progress came with a commensurate increase in crimes committed against persons, victimizing most significantly the women and children in the Filipino home.

With material development came the deterioration of individual values. Along side gradual economic prosperity came the steady erosion of positive characters that result to domestic violence in the Philippine Society. There is now, therefore, a need to strengthen the fight against this growing social affliction through the institution of a nationwide barangay level guidance counseling service that shall promote, support and protect individual, family and community character values.

This proposed bill seeks to address the problem plaguing our society at its roots, beyond current state measures to arrest perpetrators and accommodate victims of interfamilial violence in the Philippines.

In view of the foregoing considerations, urgent passage of this Bill is requested.


ULIRAN T. JOAQUIN
Representative
1st District, Laguna

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GUIDANCE COUNSELING
CENTER IN EVERY BARANGAY IN THE PHILIPPINES, 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 “*Gabay Buhay Community Center Act of the Thirtieth Congress*”.

SECTION 2. **Declaration of Policy.** - There is hereby established under the administration of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), a guidance counseling center in every Barangay in the Philippines to be known as **Gabay Buhay Community Center**.

SECTION 3. **Statement of Objectives.** - The Center shall:

- A) Provide guidance counseling service to the victims of harassment, spouse abuse, parental abuse, rape and all other gender and family related violence;
- B) Promote and provide leadership in community awareness of the fight against domestic and gender violence;
- C) Conduct regular development guidance counseling training and seminars to local barangay officials and volunteers.

SECTION 4. **Transitory Provisions.** - Within four (4) months after approval of this Act the Department of Education, Culture and Sports shall design a Community Guidance Counseling Training Course and its continuing education that shall be utilized in training local barangay guidance counselors.

- A) Within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, the DSWD shall likewise determine the organizational structure and staffing pattern for guidance counselors who shall be entitled to an allowance of not less than P 4,000.0 per month.

SECTION 5. ***Allocation of Facilities.*** - All local government units shall source, provide and allocate resources for the establishment and operation of the Center in accordance with their community development plan.

SECTION 6. ***Appropriations.*** - The amount necessary to finance the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the existing appropriation of the DSWD. Thereafter, such sums as may be needed for their operation and maintenance shall be appropriated in the annual general appropriations law.

SECTION 7. ***Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, which are not consistent with this Act hereby modified, amended or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 8. ***Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.