

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3424

Introduced by Honorable FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Article 13 Section 483 of the Local Government Code make the appointment of a Social Welfare and Development Officer mandatory for the provincial, city and municipal governments.

The government's delivery of social intervention programs particularly for the marginalized sectors of society depended on the complete staff work performed by the Social Welfare and Development Officers assigned in the nearly two thousand municipalities in the country. These field officers conduct thorough interviews, field and home visits, make assessments and evaluation reports and assist in the entire process of delivering the needed social services. They are in the frontlines of assisting individuals, families, groups and communities in crisis situations and as such, they are more often exposed to risks that are inherent in field work. This is very true for the many who are working in areas where peace and order conditions are unstable and where there are natural calamities and disasters. Yet for all their sacrifices and hard work, these personnel are not given the proper appointment in the municipal local governments because of the limitations on the budget for Personnel Services(PS). It is very unfortunate that many of them stake their lives especially in armed-conflict situations and yet get no proper government appointment. This is so because the Local Government Code of 1991 has provided that while the appointment of a Social Welfare and Development Officer is mandatory for the Province and City government, it is optional for the municipal government.

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


FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3424

Introduced by Honorable FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES

AN ACT

**AMENDING SECTION 483, ARTICLE 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 MAKING
THE APPOINTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
MANDATORY FOR PROVINCIAL, CITY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS.**

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

SECTION 1. Section 483 (a) of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 483. Qualifications, Powers and Duties. – (a) No person shall be appointed social welfare and development officer unless he is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the local government unit concerned, of good moral character, a duly licensed social worker or a holder of a college degree preferably in sociology or any other related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. He must have acquired experience in the practice of social work for at least five(5) years in the case of the provincial or city social welfare and development officer, and three (3) years in the case of the municipal social welfare and development officer. The appointment of a social welfare and development officer is mandatory for provincial, [and] city [governments], and [optional for] municipal governments.

SECTION 2. Separability Clause. If any part of this Act shall be held unconstitutional, other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in effect.

SECTION 3. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,