



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
House Bill No. 5998

Introduced by : **MA. THERESA B. BONOAN-DAVID**
Representative, 4th District, City of Manila

EXPLANATORY NOTE

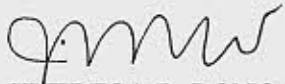
Records at the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) of the Department of Interior and Local Government reveal that for 2006, a total of 8,823 fires were recorded nationwide or an average of 24 reported incidents daily. The National Capital Region topped the list with the most number of fire occurrences at 3,665, Region 4-A ranked second at 1,238, followed by Region 6 at 803. The total amount of damages recorded at P3,203,838,834 and resulted to 867 casualties both firefighters and civilians.

In order to effect a meaningful reduction of the alarming fire losses, there is a need to develop national consciousness and involvement of all persons in the prevention and suppression of fires. To effectively implement all efforts to minimize the occurrence of fires and their destructive effects, full financial, equipment and personnel support by the government and the private sector is necessary.

To this effect there are 28 accredited fire volunteers in the country. But this is not enough. Consistent with the policy of the state to ensure the autonomy of local governments, there is a need to empower these LGUs to prepare plans and programs on fire safety, prevention and suppression and evaluate implementation thereof.

This bill seeks to aid the LGUs in their quest for the immediate implementation of their fire prevention and suppression programs by providing them available funds through the 25% retention scheme that this measure is proposed to achieve.

Hence, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ATTY. MA. THERESA B. BONOAN-DAVID
Representative, 4th District, Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS of the)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
2ND Regular Session

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**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 14 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1185,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FIRE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

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

SECTION 1. Section 14 of Presidential Decree No. 1185, otherwise known as the Fire Code of the Philippines is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 14. Collection of Taxes, Fees and Fines.- All taxes, fees and fines provided in Section 13, hereof, shall be collected by the City or Municipal Treasurer [concerned for remittance to the National Treasury], **PROVIDED THAT TWENTY- FIVE (25%) OF ALL SUCH COLLECTIONS SHALL BE SET ASIDE AND RETAINED BY THE CITY OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT CONCERNED, WHICH SHALL APPROPRIATE THE SAME EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE USE OF THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ITS LOCAL FIRE STATION, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF FIRE STATION, PURCHASE OF FIRE TRUCKS, FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND OTHER DEVICES. PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THE REMAINING SEVENTY-FIVE (75%) SHALL BE REMITTED TO THE NATIONAL TREASURY.**

SECTION 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations - As the lead agency, the Department of Interior and Local Government shall, in coordination with the Bureau of Fire Protection shall promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of this Act within ninety (90) days after its effectivity.

SECTION 3. Separability Clause - If for any reason any section or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not effected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. Repealing Clause. - Any laws, decrees, or rules and regulations which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or repealed.

SECTION 5. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect upon its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.