

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 932



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party List Representatives Gary C. Alejano**
and Francisco Ashley L. Acedillo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In recognition of the invaluable service being rendered by the members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police, Bureau of Fire Protection, and Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, this bill seeks to expand and maximize the scholarship grant to their families, as stipulated under Republic Act no. 6963, or "*An Act Granting Special Financial Assistance and Benefits to the Family or Beneficiary of any Police or Military Personnel or Fireman Killed or Permanently Incapacitated While in the Performance of his Duty or by Reason of his Office or Position and for other purposes.*"

Aside from the family members of the deceased or permanently incapacitated members of AFP and PNP, this bill extends the scholarship grants to the family members of BJMP and BFP who were also killed or permanently incapacitated while in performance of his duty or by reason of his position or office, regardless of the length of service he has rendered. In addition, this measure includes in the coverage one family member of active personnel of AFP, PNP, BJMP, and BFP, rendering at least two years of service. This also provides additional funding source for the scholarship grants, as well as the creation of an Inter-agency Scholarship Board which will serve as a policy-making body that has the authority to provide mechanics on the implementation of the scholarship program.

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

GARY C. ALEJANO

FRANCISCO ASHLEY L. ACEDILLO

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AN ACT

EXPANDING AND MAXIMIZING THE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS EXTENDED TO THE FAMILY MEMBERS OF PERSONNEL OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP), PROTECTION (BFP), AND BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP), AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6963, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS TO THE FAMILY OR BENEFICIARY OF ANY POLICE OR MILITARY PERSONNEL OR FIREMAN KILLED OR PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTY OR BY REASON OF HIS OFFICE OR POSITION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 "Sec. 1. The family or beneficiary of any PERSONNEL OF THE PHILIPPINE
3 NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), BUREAU
4 OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP) AND BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND
5 PENOLOGY (BJMP) [police or military personnel, including any fireman assisting in a
6 police or military action], who is killed or becomes permanently incapacitated while in the
7 line of duty or by reason of his office or position, provided he/she has not committed any
8 crime or human rights violation by final judgment on such occasion, shall be entitled to the
9 special financial assistance provided for in this Act in addition to whatever compensation,
10 donation, insurance, gift, pension, grant, or any form of benefit which said deceased or
11 permanently incapacitated person or his/her family may receive or be entitled to."

12
13 **SECTION 2.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 "Sec. 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS. AS USED IN THIS ACT THE
15 FOLLOWING SHALL REFER TO:

16 a. "PERSONNEL" – THE UNIFORMED PERSONNEL OF THE PNP, AFP, BFP,
17 AND BJMP;

1 b. "BOARD" - THE INTER-AGENCY SCHOLARSHIP BOARD HEREIN
2 REFERRED TO AS THE UNIFORMED-PERSONNEL SCHOLARSHIP
3 BOARD AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 10 OF THIS ACT;

4 c. the term "family" OR "BENEFICIARY" - [as used in this Act shall refer to]
5 The surviving legal spouse and his/her legitimate children, or parents, or brothers
6 and sister, or aunts and uncles, in that respective order: PROVIDED, THAT IF
7 THE PERSONNEL IS A SOLO PARENT, THE PERTINENT PROVISION OF
8 RA 8972 OR THE SOLO PARENT ACT SHALL APPLY. Provided FURTHER,
9 that, if the [police or military] personnel [or fireman] is ESPOUSING a MUSLIM
10 [Muslim] FAITH, the pertinent provisions of the Code of Muslim Personal Laws
11 (Shari' a) shall apply; and

12 d. DEATH OR INJURY IN THE LINE OF DUTY - AS USED IN REFERENCE
13 TO THE DEATH OR INJURY SUFFERED BY ANY MEMBER OF THE PNP,
14 AFP, BFP, OR BJMP. THE PHRASE "IN THE LINE OF DUTY" SHALL BE
15 CONSTRUED TO MEAN THAT THE DEATH OR INJURY WAS CAUSED
16 WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY POLICE, MILITARY, FIRE OR
17 JAIL DUTY AND OPERATION, AS THE CASE MAY BE, OR BY REASON
18 OF THEIR POSITION. PROVIDED, THAT, WHERE THE DEATH OR
19 INJURY (I WAS DUE TO HIS/HER OWN ACT, THE LATTER MUST BE
20 LAWFUL AND SUCH DEATH OR INJURY MUST NOT BE SELF-
21 INFLICTED OR ABETTED BY HIS/HER GROSS NEGLIGENCE,
22 ALCOHOLISM, DRUG ADDICTION, OR ABUSE OF AUTHORITY.
23 PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE PHRASE "LINE OF DUTY" SHALL
24 INCLUDE GOING TO AND COMING FROM HIS/HER OFFICE OR ON
25 ADMINISTRATIVE MISSION. PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT ANY DOUBT
26 AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE DEATH OR INJURY SUSTAINED BY
27 ANY PNP, AFP, BFP, OR BJMP PERSONNEL IS IN THE LINE OF DUTY OR
28 BY REASON OF HIS/HER OFFICE OR POSITION SHALL BE DECIDED IN
29 HISHER FAVOR."

30
31 **SEC. 3.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 "Sec. 3. The special financial assistance referred to in Section one hereof
33 shall be that which is equivalent to the average six (6) months salary, including
34 allowances and bonuses, during the last twelve (12) months preceding the death
35 or permanent incapacity of the PERSONNEL [officer] which shall not be
36 considered as part of the estate of the deceased and which shall be exempt from
37 attachment, garnishment or execution and from income and other taxes."

1
2 **SEC. 4.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the cashier from whom the deceased
4 PERSONNEL OF THE POLICE, MILITARY, FIRE OR JAIL BUREAU [or
5 permanently incapacitated police or military personnel or fireman] used 'to
6 receive his/her salary, within three (3) days from receipt of a written certification
7 from the station or unit commander of the fact of death and the circumstances
8 thereof, to deliver to the beneficiaries such special financial assistance as stated in
9 Section Three hereof. In case of permanent disability, a certification by the proper
10 medical officer designated by the CHIEF OF THE PNP, OR the CHIEF OF
11 STAFF OF THE AFP, OR THE CHIEF OF THE BFP, OR THE CHIEF OF THE
12 BJMP, [the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines or the Director
13 General of the Integrated National Police] as the case may be, is necessary for the
14 payment of the aforesaid special financial assistance. After said payment, a report
15 with the formal certificate of death or permanent incapacity shall be submitted to
16 the CHIEF OF THE PNP, OR the CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE AFP, OR THE
17 CHIEF OF THE BFP, OR THE CHIEF OF THE BJMP [Secretary of National
18 Defense or the Director General of the Integrated National Police]."
19

20 **SEC. 5.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 "Sec. 5. In order to assure the payment of the special financial assistance
22 referred to in this Act, without any need of any appropriation act or ordinance, the
23 payment shall come from the expected salary, allowances and bonuses of the
24 deceased or permanently incapacitated POLICE, MILITARY, FIRE OR JAIL
25 PERSONNEL [police or military personnel or fireman] for the next six (6)
26 months after his/her death or permanent incapacity: *Provided* That, the position
27 left vacant by the deceased or permanently incapacitated POLICE, MILITARY,
28 FIRE OR JAIL PERSONNEL [police or military personnel or fireman] on
29 account of his/her death incapacity shall not be filled during that period of six (6)
30 months: *Provided, further,* That if the public welfare and interest so demand, as
31 determined by the CHIEF OF THE PNP, IN THE CASE OF POLICE
32 PERSONNEL; OR THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE AFP, IN CASE OF
33 MILITARY PERSONNEL; OR THE CHIEF OF THE BFP, IN THE CASE OF
34 FIRE PERSONNEL; OR THE CHIEF OF THE BJMP, IN THE CASE OF JAIL
35 PERSONEL, [municipal or city mayor or provincial governor, in the case of a
36 police personnel or fireman, or the Secretary of National Defense, in the case of
37 military personnel] the position left vacant by the deceased or permanently

1 incapacitated personnel may be filled without waiting for the expiration of the six
2 months period earlier mentioned, in which case, the funds out of which the special
3 financial assistance already received by the family of the deceased or permanently
4 incapacitated personnel shall be replenished out of the emergency savings of the
5 CONCERNED BUREAU, UPON THE DIRECTION IN WRITING BY THEIR
6 CHIEFS OR DIRECTORS [municipality, city or province, or the department,
7 upon the direction in writing by the municipal or city mayor or governor of the
8 province, department secretary,] to their respective treasurers or cashiers.
9 [Provided, finally, That, in the event of such emergency, no emergency savings as
10 provided herein exist, the regional commander or the provincial commander, as
11 the case may be, may draw augmentation personnel from any municipality in the
12 province or region to fill up the vacancy until such time that the municipality
13 where the vacancy occurred can fill up such vacancy with regular personnel.]"

14
15 **Sec 6.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

16 "Sec. 6. If any POLICE, MILITARY, FIRE OR JAIL PERSONNEL
17 [police or military personnel or fireman] is injured or wounded while in the
18 performance of his/her official duties, the hospitalization expenses of such [police
19 or military] personnel [or fireman] shall be shouldered by the office where he/she
20 belongs, chargeable against the salary savings of such office without the need of
21 any appropriation act or ordinance."

22
23 **Sec. 7.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 "Sec. 7. [The surviving spouse] ONE OF THE BENEFICIARIES of the
25 deceased or permanently incapacitated POLICE, MILITARY, FIRE OR JAIL
26 PERSONNEL [police, military, fire or jail personnel] shall be given priority in
27 employment in a government agency or office where his/her qualifications are
28 fitted. [; Provided that, if the spouse is already employed or not employable or if
29 he/she waives his/her employment privilege, then an employable son or daughter
30 shall be granted the said privilege.]"

31
32 **Sec. 8.** Section 8 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 "Sec. 8. A MAXIMUM OF FOUR (4) CHILDREN OF THE DECEASED
34 OR PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED POLICE, MILITARY, FIRE OR
35 JAIL PERSONNEL, REGARDLESS OF THE LENGTH OF SERVICE, SHALL
36 BE EXTENDED SCHOLARSHIP UP TO COLLEGE IN AN EDUCATIONAL
37 INSTITUTION AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD, SUBJECT TO

1 THE POLICIES ON THE TUITION OF SAID INSTITUTION; PROVIDED
2 THAT, ONLY ONE (1) CHILD OF PERSONNEL IN ACTIVE DUTY WHO
3 SERVED FOR AT LEAST TWO (2) YEARS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF
4 APPLICATION FOR GRANT MAY BE ENTITLED TO THE SCHOLARSHIP;
5 PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT, IN CASES OF SINGLE AND/OR
6 UNMARRIED PERSONNEL, THE SCHOLARSHIP SHALL BENEFIT ONLY
7 ONE (1) AMONG THE OTHER ENUMERATED BENEFICIARIES AS
8 DEFINED IN THIS ACT. PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT THE FUNDS
9 SHALL GIVE

10 PRIORITY TO THE SCHOLARSHIP OF ALL QUALIFIED CHILDREN OF
11 THE DECEASED OR PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED PERSONNEL;
12 PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE SCHOLARSHIP SHALL INCLUDE
13 PAYMENT OR EXPENSES FOR TUITION, MISCELLANEOUS AND
14 OTHER FEES, AS WELL AS COST OF BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS.

15 [All surviving children of the deceased or permanently incapacitated police or
16 military personnel or fireman shall be extended scholarship up to college in a
17 nonexclusive institution, subject to the policies on tuition of said institution. The
18 scholarship privilege shall be limited to the National Police Commission or the
19 Department of National Defense, as the case maybe, upon presentation to it of the
20 approved enrollment or registration form.]"

21
22 " SEC. 9. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 Sec. 9. TO FINANCE AND SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS
24 HEREIN PROVIDED; THE NET PROCEEDS OF THE 0 FIREARMS
25 LICENSE FEES COLLECTED BY THE FIREARMS AND IO EXPLOSIVES
26 OFFICE OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, FIFTEEN PERCENT
27 (15%) OF THE FIRE CODE FEES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO PD 1185, A
28 MAXIMUM OF FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE STATE SCHOLARSHIP OF
29 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO RA 6728, AND TEN
30 PERCENT (10%) OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED)
31 SCHOLARSHIP FUND PURSUANT TO RA 7722 TO BE SET ASIDE FOR
32 THE TERTIARY LEVEL SCHOLARSHIP GRANT, SHALL BE REMITTED
33 DIRECTLY TO THE BOARD. PROVIDED, THAT IN ORDER TO
34 SUPPLEMENT THE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS IN THE 30 TERTIARY
35 LEVEL, THE CHED THROUGH THE STATE UNIVERSITIES AND
36 COLLEGES (SUCs) SHALL, AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE, ALLOT AT
37 LEAST FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THEIR TOTAL ENROLEES TO THE

1 BENEFICIARIES OF THE PERSONNEL FREE OF CHARGE AND
2 EXEMPTED FROM THE REQUIRED QUALIFICATION EXAMS FOR
3 ADMISSION BY THE SUCs UPON SATISFYING THE SCREENING
4 PROCESS TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE BOARD. PROVIDED,
5 FURTHER, THAT ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FINANCIAL
6 REQUIREMENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SHALL BE
7 FUNDED OUT FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT
8 BY CONGRESS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE
9 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
10 PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE PNP, AFP, BFP AND BJMP MAY, IF
11 NECESSITATED, GENERATE ADDITIONAL SOURCE OF FUNDS TO
12 FURTHER SUPPORT THEIR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. [The amounts
13 necessary to fund the scholarship assistance mentioned above shall be taken from
14 the proceeds of the license fees for firearms collected by the Philippine
15 Constabulary: Provided, that the collection from the said license fees for one year
16 following the approval of this Act shall constitute the initial fund reserve for the
17 purpose of this Act, to be replenished or enhanced by collections in the
18 succeeding years.]"

19
20 **Sec. 10.** Section 11 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21
22 "SEC. 11. The SCHOLARSHIP funds collected HEREIN [from the
23 firearms licensing fees] shall be MANAGED AND ADMINISTERED BY AN
24 INTER-AGENCY SCHOLARSHIP BOARD TO BE KNOWN AS THE
25 UNIFORMED-PERSONNEL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD. THE BOARD SHALL
26 BE COMPOSED OF THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
27 INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SECRETARY OF THE
28 DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AS CO-CHAIRMEN AND FOUR
29 (4) MEMBERS TO REPRESENT THE PNP, AFP, BFP AND BJMP. THE
30 BOARD SHALL SERVE AS THE POLICY MAKING BODY TO BE VESTED
31 WITH THE AUTHORITY TO COME-UP WITH THE MECHANICS AND
32 REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IN ATTAINING THE
33 OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT. THE BOARD SHALL HOWEVER DELEGATE
34 THE RESPONSIBILITY TO IMPLEMENT THE SCREENING, ADMISSION,
35 DISQUALIFICATION AND OTHER SCHOLARSHIP-RELATED
36 AVAILMENT PROCESSES TO THE RESPECTIVE SCHOLARSHIP BODY

1 OF THE PNP, AFP, BFP AND BJMP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
2 GUIDELINES TO BE DEVISED BY THE BOARD.

3 THE BOARD SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT
4 DONATIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS, GRANTS IN CASH OR IN KIND, FROM
5 VARIOUS SOURCES, DOMESTIC OR FOREIGN. SAID DONATIONS
6 SHALL BE USED EXCLUSIVELY TO COMPLEMENT THE FUNDING
7 REQUIREMENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SUBJECT TO THE
8 EXISTING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING RULES AND
9 REGULATIONS; *PROVIDED*, THAT ANY DONATION, CONTRIBUTION
10 OR FINANCIAL AID WHICH MAY BE MADE TO THE BOARD SHALL BE
11 EXEMPT FROM TAXES OF ANY KIND AND SHALL CONSTITUTE
12 ALLOWABLE DEDUCTIONS IN FULL FROM THE INCOME OF THE
13 DONORS, CONTRIBUTORS OR GIVERS FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES.
14 FURTHERMORE, THE BOARD IS AUTHORIZED TO INVEST SO MUCH
15 OF THE FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERATING ADDITIONAL
16 REVENUE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. [turned
17 over to the National Police Commission which shall administer the same for the
18 purpose of this Act in the case of Integrated National Police members and
19 firemen, and the Department of National Defense in the case of military
20 personnel.]"

21
22 **SEC. 11.** - Insert a new Sec. 12 in RA 6963 to read as follows:

23 "Sec. 12. IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP
24 PROGRAM, ASIDE FROM THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR
25 ELIGIBILITY PROVIDED FOR UNDER SEC. 8 OF THIS ACT, THE
26 BENEFICIARIES SHALL UNDERGO AND COMPLY WITH THE
27 FOLLOWING:

28 A) SCREENING PROCESS FOR THE AVAILMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP
29 GRANT TO BE GIVEN ON A UNIFORMED FINANCIAL SCALE IN ALL
30 EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

31 B) SCREENING PROCESS TO QUALIFY BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE
32 SUCs SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

33 C) MAINTAINING GRADE POLICY FOR CONTINUOUS AVAILMENT OF
34 SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

35 D) SCHOLARSHIP DURATION RULE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

36 TERTIARY LEVEL - UP TO 4 TO 5 YEARS DEPENDING ON THE COURSE
37 SECONDARY LEVEL - UP TO 4 YEARS

1 PRIMARY LEVEL - UP TO 7 YEARS

2 E) SUCH OTHER STANDARDS, RULES, MECHANICS AND
3 REQUIREMENTS AS MAY BE SET BY THE BOARD."

4
5 **SEC. 12.** Section 12 of Republic Act No. 6963 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 "Sec. 12 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prejudice and diminish whatever
7 benefits a POLICE, MILITARY, FIRE OR JAIL PERSONNEL [member of the military
8 establishment or the Integrated National Police] is entitled to receive under existing
9 laws."

10
11 **SEC. 13 .** - Insert a new Sec. 13 in RA 6963 to read as follows:

12 "Sec. 13. THE UNIFORMED-PERSONNEL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
13 CREATED UNDER THIS ACT SHALL PREPARE AND ISSUE THE
14 NECESSARY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE EFFECTIVE
15 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT."

16
17 **SEC. 14.** All acts, laws, decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations which are
18 contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, and/or modified accordingly.

19
20 **SEC. 15.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the completion of its
21 publication in two (2) newspapers circulation. Beneficiaries who reach the age of majority and
22 remains unmarried while enjoying the benefits of this Act but have not completed their
23 secondary education shall continue to be entitled to the benefits until they complete secondary
24 school.

Approved,