

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2124



INTRODUCED BY HON. MARCELINO "MARCY" R. TEODORO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Presidential Decree 1569 was enacted to strengthen the Barangay Nutrition Program. A program to address the malnutrition problem that afflicts vulnerable sectors particularly school children, pregnant women and lactating mothers, and other contributory factors that affect the health and nutrition condition of the community as a whole.

Despite the existence of P.D. 1569, however, a great percentage of the population still suffer from food inadequacy. Thus, there is a need to further strengthen the government arm tasked to implement the mandate of bringing about a well-nourished population.

This measure proposes to provide for the creation and filling up of one mandatory position of Barangay Nutrition Worker (BNW) in every barangay. In addition, it grants scholarship to a deserving nutrition worker and mandates the minimum amount of allowance the BNW shall receive upon his or her appointment, as well as, during his or her tenure as a volunteer worker. Moreover, this bill seeks to increase the level of competence required of the position by setting the qualification to at least a high school graduate.

Thus, in view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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Representative
1st District, City of Marikina

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AN ACT
CREATING THE POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN EVERY
BARANGAY, PROVIDING INCENTIVES THERETO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1569

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

SECTION 1. Presidential Decree No. 1569 entitled "Strengthening the Barangay Nutrition Program by Providing for a Nutrition Scholar in Every Barangay" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. *Barangay Nutrition Program.* - To strengthen the Barangay Nutrition Program, there shall be CREATED under the administration and SUPERVISION of the NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL IN COORDINATION WITH THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY and the BARANGAY, ONE (1) MANDATORY POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY WITH A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (5,000.00)

SEC. 2. *Barangay Nutrition Worker.* - The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAJORITY OF ALL SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OR THE SANGGUNIANG Panlungsod MEMBERS, THE SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY CONCERNED AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL. The barangay nutrition worker shall be responsible for delivering nutrition services and other related activities such as community health, backyard food production, environmental sanitation, culture, supplemental feeding and family planning to the barangay.

SEC. 3. *Services.* - The Barangay nutrition worker, while [continuously learning] UNDERGOING ACTUAL TRAINING under this program, shall serve the barangay on a voluntary basis for at least [a period of one year] SIX MONTHS. THEREAFTER, THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL SHALL ASSESS HIS/HER PERFORMANCE AND MAKE THE NECESSARY RECOMMENDATION FOR HIS/HER APPOINTMENT.

SEC. 4. *Qualifications.* - The qualifications of a Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be as follows:

- a) Bonafide resident of the barangay for at least one (1) year, with the ability to speak the dialect;
- b) Possession of leadership potentials and the initiative and willingness to serve the barangay [for at least one year];

- c) Willingness to learn and to teach what he/she has learned to the barangay people;
- d) At least a [primary] HIGH SCHOOL graduate;
- e) Physically and mentally fit; and
- f) At least eighteen (18) years old but not more than sixty (60) years old.

SEC. 5. *Recruitment.* - The barangay nutrition worker shall be recruited from within the barangay and shall be tested on mental ability and proper work attitude.

SEC. 6. *Training.* - Before actual barangay service, the barangay nutrition worker shall undergo a ten-day training on selected topics such as nutrition, health, food production and environmental sanitation, based on defined task expectations to be conducted by a provincial training team in coordination with the municipal and barangay nutrition committee. This training shall be supplemented by a twenty-day practicum to be conducted in the barangay where the worker is assigned, and such activity shall be in coordination with the local training team.

SEC. 7. *Benefits.* - The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be entitled to a training stipend, meal and travel allowance of at least P250.00 a day. DURING THE PERIOD OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE PRIOR TO HIS/HER APPOINTMENT, THEY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ALLOWANCE OF TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P 2,000.00) A MONTH.

The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be granted a civil service eligibility equivalent to second grade after the completion of at least two (2) years of continuous and satisfactory service in the barangay.

SEC. 8. *INCENTIVES.* - TO FURTHER ENHANCE THE PROGRAM, THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL FORMULATE A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WHERE INCUMBENT AND DESERVING BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS SHALL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO AVAIL OF A SCHOLARSHIP GRANT IN ANY STATE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY AND PURSUE A COURSE RELEVANT TO HIS/HER PRESENT POSITION.

SEC. 9. *Nutrition Committees.* - The implementation of this project shall be the total responsibility of a Provincial/City Nutrition Committee headed by the Governor/City Mayor as Chairman and a Municipal Nutrition Committee headed by the Mayor as Chairman

SEC. 10. *Local Training Team.* - The local training team of the municipality shall be composed of two (2) members chosen from among the members of the Municipal Nutrition Committee. This team shall follow-up the activities of the trained barangay nutrition worker.

SEC. 11. *Role of the Mayor.* - The Municipal or City Mayor shall initiate activities to implement this project within the municipality, organize the local training teams and may recommend the appropriation by his/her municipality/city of a local counterpart in the form of additional allowance for the barangay nutrition worker.

SEC. 12. *Barangay Nutrition Workers Staff Secretariat.* - There shall be a staff secretariat in every province/city which shall monitor the progress of the program, identify its problems and recommend possible solutions thereto.

SEC. 13. *National Nutrition Council.* - The National Nutrition Council shall formulate the rules and regulations, plans and programs within the limits set forth in this Act, allocate the funds for this project to the various provinces and/or

agencies for disbursement in accordance with the financial plan of the Barangay Nutrition Workers Project.

SEC. 14. *Donations.* - For the purposes of this Program, the National Nutrition Council and the local governments are authorized to receive grants, donations, gifts or bequests from various government agencies and government corporations which shall be tax exempted.

SEC. 15. *Appropriations.* - The amount of Five Million Pesos out of any available funds from the National Treasury or from the Special Activities Funds is hereby appropriated to be released for the organization and initial operation of the Council and the local governments for the purposes of this program. Local governments are likewise authorized to appropriate such amount necessary for the successful implementation of this program. PROVIDED, THAT THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL APPROPRIATE AS PART OF ITS ANNUAL BUDGET FOR PERSONAL SERVICES THE NECESSARY AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P 1,500.00) PER MONTH PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER, PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THIRD TO FIFTH CLASS MUNICIPALITIES SHALL APPROPRIATE EIGHT HUNDRED PESOS (P 800.00) PER MONTH PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER. THE DIFFERENCE IN THE FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P 5,000.00) MONTHLY ALLOWANCE PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR THE YEAR FOLLOWING ITS ENACTMENT.

SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.* - If any provisions or part hereof, is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,