

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3532**



Introduced by **Hon. GABRIEL LUIS R. QUISUMBING**

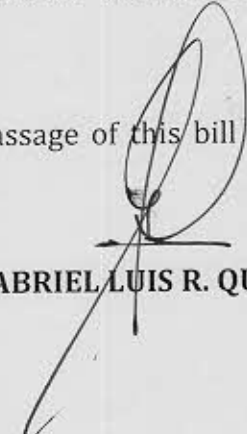
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 4 of Article II of the Constitution provides that "the prime duty of the Government is to serve and protect the people. The Government may call upon the people to defend the State and, in the fulfillment thereof, all Citizens may be required under conditions provided by law, to render personal, military or civil service."

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Reserve Forces was organized with the purpose of augmenting the regular armed forces of the AFP in times of war or national emergency. Further, Reserve Forces are mobilizable in relief and rescue operations during disasters or calamities and, likewise, assist in socio-economic development as well as in the operation and maintenance of essential government or private utilities in the continuance of the overall mission of the AFP.

Recognizing the significant contribution of the AFP Ready Reserves and to encourage membership in units of the AFP Reserve Forces, this bill seeks to provide educational assistance to members of the Ready Reserve of the AFP under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of National Defense.

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


GABRIEL LUIS R. QUISUMBING

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3532**

Introduced by **Hon. GABRIEL LUIS R. QUISUMBING**

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) RESERVE FORCES, AND AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7077 ALSO KNOWN AS "CITIZEN ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES" AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

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

SECTION 1. Statement of Policy. - Section 4 of Article II of the Constitution provides that "the prime duty of the Government is to serve and protect the people. The Government may call upon the people to defend the State and, in the fulfillment thereof, all Citizens may be required under conditions provided by law, to render personal, military or civil service."

SEC. 2. Definition of Terms. - As defined in Republic Act No. 7077 and for the purpose of this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- a. **RESERVE FORCES** alternately referred to as Citizen Armed Force, organized in to five (5) components, namely:
 1. The Army Reserve Component;
 2. The Air Force Reserve Component;
 3. The Navy Reserve Component;
 4. The AFP-Wide Technical Reserve Component; and
 5. The Affiliated Reserves.
- b. **RESERVIST** are those that composes the AFP Reserve Force
- c. **READY RESERVE** is composed of citizen soldiers belonging mostly to the first category reserve, which are between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty five (35) years, who shall be organized, trained and maintained as

mobilizable ready reserve subject to call at any time to augment the regular armed force of the AFP not only in times of war or national emergency but also to meet local emergencies arising from calamities, disasters and threats to peace, order, security and stability in any locality, including the need to provide assistance in relief and rescue work and other civil assistance activities.

SEC. 3. A new Section 52 is hereby added to Republic Act No. 7077, also known as the "Citizen Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservist Act," to read as follows:

"SECTION 52. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR RESERVE FORCES. - EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE SHALL BE GRANTED TO RESERVE FORCES BELONGING TO THE READY RESERVES OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES.

THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND THE AFP CHIEF OF STAFF THROUGH THE AFP RESERVE COMMAND SHALL DETERMINE AND PRESCRIBE THE COURSES FOR WHICH RESERVE FORCES MAY BE GRANTED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.

THE HEAD OF EACH RESERVE FORCE COMPONENT, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM THAT IS NECESSARY FOR THE APPLICANTS OF THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.

SEC. 4. A new Section 53 is hereby added to Republic Act No. 7077, also known as the "Citizen Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservist Act," to read as follows:

"SECTION 53. FUNDS FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR RESERVE FORCES. THE FUNDS FOR THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE OF READY RESERVES AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 52 SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES.

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, ordinances, administrative orders, rules and regulations, or any part thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 6. Separability Clause. - Should any provision of this Act be subsequently declared unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. Effectivity Date. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

