

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3671



Introduced by Hon. Jerry P. Treñas

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The barangay is the most basic political subdivision of the Republic created by the Constitution. Its officials and employees are directly involved with the day-to-day affairs of its constituents, dealing with our country's citizens at the grassroots level.

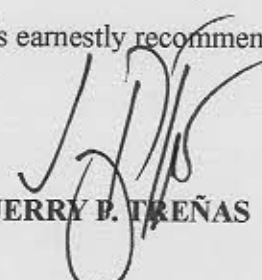
The officials and employees of barangays are no different from the elected and appointed officials and employees of the national government and local governments. They are hard-working civil servants who are constantly in touch with their constituents, ever ready to provide leadership and assistance to the members of their respective communities. During times of crisis and calamities, they are at the forefront of the government's relief efforts and are the first to respond to the needs of their constituents. The leaders of our barangays are manning the walls which serve as the first line of defense against all threats, both natural and man-made, which compromise the safety and well-being of our citizens.

Unfortunately, despite of their indispensable role and high importance, barangay officials and employees are not properly compensated by the government. This proposed legislation aims to remedy this situation by providing Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) coverage to all barangay officials and employees.

The overworked and underpaid barangay officials and employees, however, are not even receiving a regular living wage from the government. In so being, it is unrealistic and unconscionable to deduct GSIS contributions from the meagre honoraria of barangay officials and employees. This bill therefore proposes for the national government to fully subsidize the GSIS premiums of barangay officials and employees. It is only fair for the State to do so, considering that they are expecting full time work from people who are not even paid like regular employees.

It is only fair and equitable for our public servants working at the barangay level to enjoy GSIS benefits. The members of the Civil Service have GSIS benefits, while the self-employed, the employees working in the private sector and the *kasambahays* have Social Security System (SSS) coverage. It is therefore equitable and necessary for our barangay officials and employees to be covered by the GSIS.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this legislative measure is earnestly recommended.


JERRY P. TREÑAS

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14 **AN ACT INCLUDING BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES WITHIN THE**
15 **COVERAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS) AND**
16 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
17

18 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines duly assembled:*
19

20 **Section 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to provide insurance coverage to
21 all of its officials and employees. The State values the service of its barangay officials and employees,
22 and shall endeavor to improve their welfare and quality of life.
23

24 **Section 2. Coverage.** - The Punong Barangay, Barangay Kagawads, Barangay Tanods,
25 Barangay Secretary and Barangay Treasurer of all barangays of the Republic of the Philippines shall be
26 covered by this Act.
27

28 **Section 3. GSIS Coverage.** - The coverage of the GSIS is hereby expanded to include the
29 barangay officials and employees stated in the previous section. The GSIS, in consultation and
30 coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the league
31 representing barangay officials, shall issue the necessary rules and regulation to implement the
32 provisions of this Act which shall cover the rate of premiums to be paid exclusively by the national
33 government and the scope of the insurance coverage.
34

35 **Section 4. Appropriation.** - The national government of the Republic of the Philippines shall
36 appropriate annually and include in the General Appropriations Act the total annual premiums based on
37 the actual number of barangay officials and employees covered under section two hereof, as certified
38 by the DILG, and in accordance with the rules and regulations to be formulated to implement this Act
39 as provided by the previous section. The entire appropriation for the payments of the foregoing total
40 annual premiums shall be released annually to the GSIS. The GSIS shall conduct periodic actuarial
41 studies to determine the adequacy of the premiums paid by the national government, but shall not make
42 any changes to the premium rates without prior consultation with the DILG, the Department of Budget
43 and Management (DBM) and the representatives of the barangay officials and employees.
44

45 **Section 5. Repealing Clause.** – All provisions of laws, orders, decrees, including rules and
46 regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.
47

48 **Section 6. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act shall be held
49 unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be

50 in full force and effect.

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52 **Section 7. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
53 *Official Gazette* or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

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55 *Approved*