

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4152



Introduced by **Rep. Doy C. Leachon**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

One of the state policies enshrined under Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution which provides "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Pursuant to this policy, the government had adopted the policy of Primary Health Care Approach for health empowerment which emphasizes the need to provide accessible and acceptable health services through the participatory strategies such as training of barangay health workers, community building and organizing and among others.

Republic Act 7783 or the Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995 was enacted wherein the Barangay Health Workers were considered as the front liners in providing health care services. However, in this act there is no existing provision granting security of tenure. Accordingly, their hold of office depends on the discretion or worst on the whims and caprices of the appointing authority. Further, the time, training and accreditation expenses invested by the government and the health workers are put into waste. This piece of legislation seeks to remedy such conditions.

With the passage of this bill, there shall be security of tenure for these barangay health workers such that they may only be removed from office for valid or justified causes under the existing Civil Service laws and regulations and only after due notice and hearing.

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

Approved,

ATTY. PAULINO SALVADOR "DOY" C. LEACHON

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AN ACT PROVIDING SECURITY OF TENURE FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS BENEFITS & INCENTIVES ACTS OF 1995.

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

SECTION 1. A new provision shall be inserted between Sections 7 and 8 of Republic Act 7883 of the same act to be denominated as Section 7-A, which shall read as follows:

"SECTION 7-A. SECURITY OF TENURE OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS. - *In addition to the incentives and benefits accorded to the Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) as provided under this Act, the BHWs as accredited in accordance with Section 4 hereof shall enjoy and be afforded the security of tenure. No person duly accredited as barangay health workers shall be removed except for valid cause as prescribed under existing Civil Service rules and regulations and only after due notice and hearing. "*

SECTION 2. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the remainder of any provision hereof not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SECTION 3. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, and other presidential issuances which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,