

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

H. B. No. 4211



Introduced by HONORABLE SCOTT DAVIES S. LANETE, M.D.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As stated in the 1987 Philippine Constitution, it is the prime duty of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. It is also its solemn mandate to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Health is and should be the most important concern of every society. It is the primary moving factor which enables every human being to participate in society. Without it, society would be dull and unproductive.

It is an established fact that most of the country's health programs are concentrated on the massive population living in the urban areas such as those of Metro Manila. Although there are government hospitals in various parts of the country, these are mainly situated in the major cities of each province.

Rarely does healthcare reach the far-flung areas of the country. As such, the lack of attention in terms of health given to Filipinos living in these areas has had a poor effect on their health. Diseases and malnutrition greatly affect these people, who belong to the marginalized sector of society.

As a solution to this predicament, it is essential that the State take a proactive step by establishing a program that would devote utmost attention to the health of Filipinos living both in urban and rural areas. It is imperative that health care services be made readily available and accessible to these people. By mandating the presence of at least once health worker in every Barangay, the State will help secure the people's health as the healthcare worker will see to it that proper nutrition and medical attention is provided. Only through such solution will the State accord the people their right to health.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, belonging to Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D.

SCOTT DAVIES S. LANETE, M.D
Representative
Third District, Province of Masbate

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE AT LEAST
ONE (1) HEALTH WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY, INCREASING THEIR
SALARIES AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Provision of Barangay Health Worker.* There shall be provided at least one (1) health worker in every barangay throughout the country. Such health worker shall be under the control and supervision of the Department of Health in close coordination with the Local Government Health Officer. As far as practicable, the barangay health worker to be employed must be living in the barangay where he/she is to be assigned, or within the city or municipality in which the barangay is to be found.

SEC. 2. *Salary Grade.* The barangay health worker shall receive monthly salary and benefits equivalent to a salary grade not lower than SG 10 pursuant to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 6758 or the Salary Standardization Law of 1989; Provided, that they have acquired the necessary civil service eligibility. In addition, the barangay health worker shall be entitled to a Christmas bonus equivalent to their one (1) month salary, and all the benefits granted to other barangay employees within their city or municipality, including the incentives and benefits under Republic Act No. 7883 otherwise known as the Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995.

SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Department of Health shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Appropriation.* The sum of Twenty Million Pesos (P20,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the initial implementation of this Act. Such amount as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included and integrated in the General Appropriations Act as part of the budget of the Department of Health.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,