

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

H.B. No. **5809**



Introduced by **HONORABLE SAMUEL D PAGDILAO JR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bureau of Fire Protection is now in dire need of Fire Truck Driver- Mechanic considering that most of the Driver-Pump Operator either has retired or almost in the age of retiring. To date, the Bureau has 1,574 serviceable fire trucks and has 374 fire trucks from local government units. In addition, the Bureau is expecting for the delivery of 469 fire trucks this year, 40 fire trucks due for procurement this year under the GAA, 33 fire trucks for the ARMM under the Transition Investment Support Program or TISP and 93 fire trucks due for procurement this year out of the Fire Code Fees collection. This would bring us to a total of 2,583 fire trucks.

The desired ratio of fire truck and driver is two (2) drivers per fire truck. Thus, the Bureau needs 5,166 fire truck drivers to cover the same. At present, the Bureau only has 3,706 fire trucks drivers giving us a shortage of 1,460 fire trucks drivers that must be filled up as soon as possible so as not to hamper public service. Besides this, an average of 75 fire truck drivers are retiring every year without replacement thus, immediate hiring of fire truck drivers is very imminent.

This bill seeks to resolve the need of the Bureau of Fire Protection of these fire truck driver-mechanics and to level the playing field for those belonging to poor families who could not afford to bring their children to college by lowering the educational requirements for Fire applicants.

Driver- Mechanics who are High School Graduates and at the same time NC3 TESDA certified or from private institutions which is TESDA accredited, may be admitted to the Bureau of Fire Protection provided that the applicants pass all the examinations, including entrance test administered by the Bureau.

Successful applicants shall be considered Fire Truck Officer and shall have an entry position Fire Truck Officer 1 with the designation as Fire Truck Driver-Mechanic.

Should they decide to be Fire Officer 1, applicants are still required to adhere to the BFP's general qualification standards provided under existing law.

Approval of the measure is therefore earnestly sought.



SAMUEL D PAGDILAO JR

Representative

ACT-CIS Party-list

16 Truck Officer in the Bureau of Fire Protection unless he/ she possess the following
17 minimum qualifications:

- 18 a. A citizen of the Republic of the Philippines;
- 19 b. A person of good moral character;
- 20 c. Must have passed the neuro-psychiatric/psychological, drug and
21 physical tests for the purpose of determining his/her physical and
22 mental health;
- 23 d. Must be at least a High School Graduate from recognized institution of
24 learning;
- 25 e. Must be a driver (NC3) and must possess a valid professional drivers
26 license with restriction 1, 2 and 3;
- 27 f. Must be a mechanic duly certified by the Technical Education Skills and
28 Development Authority (TESDA) or by any private institution
29 accredited by the latter;
- 30 g. Must not have been convicted by final judgement of an offense or crime
31 involving moral turpitude;
- 32 h. He must be at least twenty one (21) years old but not more than thirty
33 five (35) years of age at the time of his/her appointment;
- 34 i. Must be at least one meter and sixty two centimetres (1.62m) in height
35 for male and one meter and fifty- seven centimetres (1. 57m) for
36 female: Provided, That a waiver for height and age requirements
37 shall be automatically granted to applicants belonging to the
38 cultural communities.

30 Section 4. Appointment of Fire Truck Officer to the BFP. - The appointment of Fire
40 Truck Officer (FTO1 to FTO3) to the BFP shall be made by the respective Regional
41 Director of the Bureau of Fire Protection or by the Chief of the Fire Bureau for
42 appointment in the national headquarters and attested by the Civil Service
Commission (CSC);.

43 Section 5. Position and Designation.- Successful applicants shall have the entry
44 position as Fire Truck Officer 1 with the designation as Fire Truck Driver- Mechanic.

45 Section 6. Salaries and compensation.- The salaries and compensation of successful
46 applicants shall be salary grade 6 for FTO1, shall be salary grade 7 for FTO2 and salary
47 grade 8 for FTO3.

48 Section 7. Mandatory Training.- As uniformed personnel of the BFP, Fire Truck Officers
49 shall undergo 30- day mandatory training in accordance with the Program Of
50 Instruction (POI) to be formulated by the National Fire Training Institute (NFTI).

51 Section 8. Opportunity for Promotions.- Fire Truck Officer shall not be eligible for
52 promotion to Fire Officer 1 unless he/she has complied with the minimum Qualification
53 Standard requirements set forth by RA 9263 as amended by RA 9592, however, FTO1
54 shall be eligible for promotion to the next higher rank of FTO2 and thereafter to FTO3
55 in accordance with the existing rules and regulations set by the CSC and criteria for

56 promotion to be established by theBFP.

57 Section 9. Appropriations – Source of fund shall be included in the General Annual

58 Appropriation of the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) as approved by the Congress.

59 Section 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The DILG in coordination with the

60 BFP, the CSC, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and the Department

61 of Finance (DOF) shall, within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act,

62 promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provision of this Act.

63 Section 11. Separability Clause.- If any portion or provision of this Act is declared

64 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other

65 provisions not affected thereby.

66 Section 12. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, and

67 other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act,

68 are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

69 Section 13. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete

70 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general

71 circulation.