

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6408



Introduced by Congressman Alfredo D. Vargas III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As stated under Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Constitution: *"The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy¹."* The people will always turn towards the government for their safety and security.

Under Executive Order No. 366 of 1996, the Barangay Peace and Order Committee serves as an implementing arm of the City/Municipal Peace and Order Council at the Barangay level². While several local government units have already adopted their individual action plans and policies in promoting public safety, it is observed that these strategies are not effectively implemented in the barangay level. Furthermore, the country still faces the issue of lack of police officers. Thus, there is a need to tap the participation of the community and establish an effective machinery in maintaining peace and order.

The bill seeks to create and institutionalize the Barangay Peace and Order Council which will help the Philippine National Police (PNP) and City and Municipal Peace and Order Councils in preventing crime, resolving traffic and managing disasters, and assisting in implementing national and local projects for the benefit of the community.

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


ALFREDO D. VARGAS III

¹ Section 5 of Article 2 of the 1987 Constitution

² http://www.lawphil.net/executive/execord/eo1996/eo_366_1996.html

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HOUSE BILL NO. ____

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AN ACT
CREATING A BARANGAY COMMUNITY PEACE AND ORDER COUNCIL FOR THE
UTILIZATION OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND ITS CONSTITUENTS FOR CRIME
PREVENTION AND OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall also be known as the "Barangay Community Peace and Order Council Act of 2015"

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy* - It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to promote peace and order, ensure public safety and further strengthen local government capability in the effective delivery of the basic services to its people. Towards this end, the State shall bolster a system of participation and cooperation among the Citizenry in crime prevention particularly down to the Barangay level.

SEC. 3. *Coverage* - This shall apply to all barangays in all cities, municipalities and provinces.

SEC. 4. *Creation and Composition of Barangay Community Peace and Order Council* - Every barangay shall organize a Barangay Community Peace and Order Council to serve as primary government institution that prevents and suppresses criminality and maintains public order and safety in the community level. Such unit shall be composed of the following members:

- (a.) The Punong Barangay as Chairperson;
- (b.) The Sanggunian Barangay Member, who chairs the Committee on Peace and Order, as Vice Chairperson;
- (c.) The Barangay Secretary;
- (d.) The Chairperson of the Sangguniang Kabataan;

- (e.) One (1) representative from the Lupon Tagapamayapa;
- (f.) At least three (3) representatives from the private sector who shall be appointed by the Chairperson, representing academic, civic and religious organizations
- (g.) At least one (1) PNP Officer designated by the Municipal / City Chief of Police; and
- (h.) All barangay tanods.

As may be necessary or depending upon the need and situation in the community, the Punong Barangay, in his capacity as Chairman, may appoint additional Sectoral Representatives.

SEC. 5. Responsibility of Barangay and Peace Order Unit – The Barangay Community Peace and Order Unit shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

- (a.) Formulate the Barangay Community Peace and Order Plan, which shall be incorporated in the Barangay Development Plan, and recommend measures to improve or enhance peace and order and public safety in the community;
- (b.) Monitor and coordinate with the Local Government Unit (LGU) concerned, Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire protection (BFP) , City and Municipal Disaster Office, Public Order and Safety Department and Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) in the implementation of peace and order programs and projects at the Barangay level;
- (c.) Serve as an information-gathering mechanism and maintain the profile of all residents in the Barangay;
- (d.) Monitor and check the nefarious activities of criminal elements;
- (e.) Identify barangay constituents with strong deviant behavior for referral to appropriate authorities;
- (f.) Maintain continuing dialogue, close coordination and rapport with the higher levels of the peace and order councils and law enforcement units;
- (g.) Monitor, coordinate and supervise the operation of all community- based anti-crime movements within the barangay;

- (h.) Make periodic assessment of the prevailing peace and order situation in their respective areas of responsibility and submit reports with appropriate recommendations to the higher level Peace and Order Council;
- (i.) Recommend purchase of equipment and other materials necessary for the discharge of their duties and functions; and
- (j.) Perform such other functions which may be assigned by the city, municipal, provincial and/or national government agencies.

SEC. 6. *Funding* – Tha Sangguniang Barangay shall allocate at least five percent (5%) of the barangay's total budget appropriation to fund the implementation of the Community Peace and Order Program.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause* – All prior issuances on the organization and functions of the Barangay Community Peace and Order Council inconsistent herewith shall be deemed superseded.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity* – The Barangay Community Peace and Order Council as herein provided shall take effect immediately and be completed within (30) days thereafter.

Approved,