

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **7716**



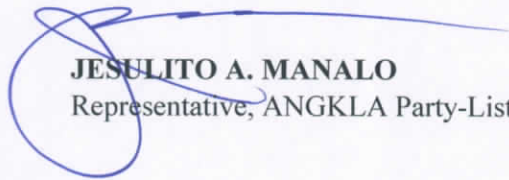
Introduced by ANGKLA Party-list Representative Jesulito A. Manalo

AN ACT
EXEMPTING THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY FROM THE COVERAGE OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6758, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "SALARY
STANDARDIZATION ACT", AND AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 474 FOR
THAT PURPOSE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As an archipelago, the maritime industry is important to the Philippines and the maritime industry has a huge potential to support the growth of the Philippine economy. There is ample opportunity for economic growth and employment in the shipping industry. To take full advantage of these opportunities, the Maritime Industry Authority ("MARINA") must have a sufficient supply of competent and highly-qualified officials and employees familiar with the industry.

However, in order to achieve this, the salaries of MARINA officials and employees must be able to compete with the salaries of merchant marine officers aboard ships and offshore installations, and other opportunities abroad. To this end, it is vital that MARINA be exempted from the salary standardization law in order to hire a complement of officials and employees which will ensure that the Philippines takes full advantage of the ample opportunities to generate income and employment and promote foreign trade.


JESULITO A. MANALO
Representative, ANGKLA Party-List

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

Sec. 1. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes that shipping is a necessary infrastructure, which is vital to the economic development of our country. It shall be the policy of the State to accelerate the integrated development of the maritime industry of the Philippines to attain the following objectives:

- (a) To increase the production and productivity in the various islands and regions of the archipelago through the provision of effective sea linkage;
- (b) To provide for the economical, safe, adequate and efficient shipment of raw materials, products, commodities and people;
- (c) To enhance the competitive position of Philippine flag vessels in the carriage of foreign trade;
- (d) Encourage the dispersal of industry and the economic development of our regional communities by ensuring the availability of regular, reliable and efficient shipping services, and related auxiliary services and industries;
- (e) To generate new and more job opportunities; and
- (f) To create a strong and competitive domestic merchant fleet which shall serve as a naval and military auxiliary in times of war and other national emergencies

Sec. 2. Section 6 of the Maritime Industry Decree of 1974 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 6. **Powers and Functions of the Board.** – The Maritime Industry Board shall have the following powers, functions, and duties, among others:

“(a) xxx

- “(j) To recommend to the President, through the National Economic and Development Authority, the grant of necessary incentives for the development of shipping and other related maritime enterprises;
- “(k) To institute a compensation structure, based on job evaluation studies and wage surveys, as an integral component of the Authority’s human resource development program which shall be exempted from the coverage of Republic Act No. 6758, otherwise known as the ‘Salary Standardization Act’; Provided, That the Maritime Industry Board shall make its own system conform as closely as possible with the principles provided under Republic Act No. 6758; and
- “(l) To perform such acts as are proper and necessary to implement this Decree.”

Sec. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Maritime Industry Board shall issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity. In no case shall the absence of the implementing rules and regulations be used as justification for the non-enforcement of this Act.

Sec. 4. *Repealing Clause.* - All existing laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

Sec. 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,