

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 8354



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. GARY C. ALEJANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution provides:

“The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health, and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost.”

In faithful observance of the abovementioned constitutional mandate, Section 17, Title I of R.A. 7160 provides that among the services devolved to local government units is the administration of health and social services. Barangays then, are responsible for the efficient and effective service delivery of barangay health and daycare centers. These centers are aided by barangay health workers who have volunteered to provide primary healthcare services to the community.

What is unfortunate, however, is the fact that while barangay health workers endeavor as front-liners in rendering healthcare services to the community, there exists no mechanism to ensure that all barangays are able to avail of the services rendered by these barangay health workers, thus this proposal.

This proposed measure shall provide that at least 1 barangay health worker in every barangay throughout the country after proper accreditation with the local health board. Furthermore, barangay health workers will be entitled to allowances and other benefits accorded to appointed barangay officials. More importantly, our faithful barangay health workers will be accorded with security of tenure.

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


Rep. Gary C. Alejano

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN EVERY BARANGAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, FURTHER EXPANDING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.**—This Act shall be known as the “**Barangay Health Workers**
2 **Act of 2018.**”

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.**—Pursuant to Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Philippine
4 Constitution, the State hereby declares the policy of according utmost importance to the health
5 needs of the nation and shall henceforth endeavor to make essential goods, health, and other social
6 services available to all the people at affordable cost. Toward this end, the State shall ensure that
7 accessible and quality health services are extended to each individual through the barangay health
8 workers as the primary channel for implementing the State’s health policies down to the barangay
9 health needs, the State shall guarantee the appointment of a health worker in every barangay as
10 frontline health workers.

11 **SEC. 3. Coverage.**—The provisions of this Act shall be applicable to all barangay health
12 workers accredited to act as such by the local health board in accordance with guidelines issued by
13 the Department of Health (DOH). For the purposes of this Act, the term barangay health worker
14 shall refer to a person who has undergone training program under any accredited government or
15 non-government organization primarily to render health care services.

16 **SEC. 4.** Section 287 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government
17 Code of 1991 as amended, shall be further amended to read as follows:

1 “Section 387. Chief Officials and Officers.—(a) There shall be in each barangay a
2 punong barangay, seven (7) sangguniang barangay members, the sangguniang kabataan
3 chairman, a barangay secretary, [and] a barangay treasurer, **AND AT LEAST FIVE (5)**
4 **BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS PROVIDED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF**
5 **BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS PER BARANGAY SHALL IN NO CASE BE**
6 **MORE THAN 1% OF THE BARANGAY’S TOTAL POPULATION.”**

7 **SEC. 5.** A new provision shall be inserted between Sections 395 and 396 of the same Act to
8 be denominated as Section 395-A, which shall read as follows:

9 **“SECTION 395-A. APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS OF**
10 **BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS—THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER AS**
11 **ACCREDITED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY HEALTH**
12 **BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.**
13 **7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND**
14 **BENEFITS ACT OF 1995, SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE MUNICIPAL OR**
15 **CITY MAYOR OF THE AREA WHERE SUCH BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER**
16 **WILL BE APPOINTED IS LOCATED. A BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER**
17 **SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ALLOWANCES AND SUCH OTHER BENEFITS TO**
18 **WHICH OTHER APPOINTED BARANGAY OFFICIALS MAY BE ENTITLED TO**
19 **NO PERSON DULY APPOINTED AS A BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER SHALL**
20 **BE REMOVED EXCEPT FOR VALID CAUSE AS PROVIDED UNDER EXISTING**
21 **CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND ONLY AFTER DUE NOTICE**
22 **AND HEARING.”**

23 **SEC. 6.** Section 393, paragraphs (a) and (b) of the Local Government Code of the
24 Philippines, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

25 “Section 393. Benefits of Barangay Officials.—

26 a. Barangay Officials, including barangay tanods and members of the lupong
27 tagamapayapa, shall receive honoraria, allowances, and such other emoluments as may be
28 authorized by law or barangay, municipal, or city ordinance in accordance with the
29 provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00)
30 per month for the punong barangay and six hundred pesos (P600.00) per month for the
31 punong barangay and Six Hundred Pesos (P600.00) per month for the sangguniang
32 barangay members, barangay treasurer, [and] barangay secretary, **AND BARANGAY**

1 **HEALTH WORKERS:** Provided, however that the annual appropriations for personal
2 services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under Title Five, Book II of
3 this Code; **PROVIDED FURTHERMORE, THAT THE BENEFITS PROVIDED BY**
4 **THIS CODE SHALL BE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE APPLICATION OF**
5 **AND ENTITLEMENT TO THEIR INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS FOR BARANGAY**
6 **OFFICIALS AS MAY BE PROVIDED BY LAW SUCH AS REPUBLIC ACT NO.**
7 **6492 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE**
8 **BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND INCENTIVES ACT.**

9 b. The punong barangay, the sangguniang barangay members, the barangay
10 treasurer, [and] the barangay secretary AND THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER shall
11 also: xxx

12 **SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.***—The Department of Interior and Local
13 Government, in coordination with the Civil Service Commission, shall within ninety (90) days from
14 the enactment of this Act, promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of
15 this Act.

16 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.***—All laws, decrees, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent
17 with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

18 **SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.***—If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or
19 unconstitutional, the other parts not otherwise affected shall remain in full effect and force.

20 **SEC. 10. *Effectivity.***—This Act shall take effect immediately after its complete publication
21 in at least two newspapers of general publication.

Approved,