

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6682



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The enactment of Republic Act No. 6975 provided for the creation of the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology. They comprise the uniformed bureaus under the Department of Interior and Local Government. However, there is a difference between the existing rank classification in the BFP and the BJMP compared to that of the PNP and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) which is also part of the uniformed sector. As provided in Republic Act No. 9263, the highest rank in the BFP and the BJMP is Fire/Jail Director which is equivalent to a two-star general rank in the PNP and the AFP.

It should be recognized that all members of the uniformed sector are in the same level of significance in providing peace, order and safety to the Filipino people. Therefore, there is a need to amend the rank classification in the BFP and the BJMP to observe fairness and equivalence. This bill then provides for the upgrade of the rank classification in the BFP and the BJMP. The new rank classification will be similar to their PNP counterparts to observe uniformity and clarity of command and responsibility within the uniformed sector.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MDC" with a stylized flourish.

MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III
Representative
Magdalo Para Sa Pilipino Party-List

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AN ACT

UPGRADING THE RANK CLASSIFICATION STRUCTURE OF THE UNIFORMED MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP) AND THE BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP) ORGANIZATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8551, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9263

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9263, as amended, is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3
4 “SEC. 3. *Organization and Key Positions of the BFP and the BJMP.* – The
5 BFP and the BJMP shall be respectively headed by a Chief who shall be assisted by
6 two (2) Deputy Chiefs, one (1) for Administration and one (1) for Operations, all of
7 whom shall be appointed by the President upon recommendation of the Secretary of
8 the DILG from among the qualified officers with at least the rank of [senior
9 superintendent] **BRIGADIER GENERAL** in the service: *Provided*, that in no case
10 shall any officer who has retired or is retirable within six (6) months from his/her
11 compulsory retirement age be appointed as Chief of the Fire Bureau or Chief of the
12 Jail Bureau, as the case may be: *Provided, further*, that the Chief of the Fire Bureau,
13 and Chief of the Jail Bureau shall serve a tour of duty not to exceed four (4) years:
14 *Provided, however*, that in times of war or other National Emergency declared by
15 Congress, the President may extend such tour of duty.

16
17 The Heads of the BFP and the BJMP with the rank of [director] **GENERAL**
18 shall have the position title of Chief of the Fire Bureau and the Chief of the Jail
19 Bureau, respectively. The second officers in command of the BFP and the BJMP with
20 the rank of [chief superintendent] **LIEUTENANT GENERAL** shall have the
21 position title of Deputy Chief for Administration of the Fire Bureau and Deputy Chief

1 for Administration of the Jail Bureau, respectively. The third officers in command of
2 the BFP and the BJMP with the rank of [chief superintendent] **LIEUTENANT**
3 **GENERAL** shall have the position title of Deputy Chief for Operation of the Fire
4 Bureau and Deputy Chief for Operation of the Jail Bureau, respectively. The fourth
5 officers in command of the BFP and the BJMP with the rank of [chief superintendent]
6 **LIEUTENANT GENERAL** shall have the respective position title of Chief of
7 Directorial Staff of the Fire Bureau and Chief of Directorial Staff of the Jail Bureau,
8 who shall be assisted by the Directors of the Directorates in the respective National
9 Headquarters Office with at least the rank of [senior superintendent] **MAJOR**
10 **GENERAL**.

11
12 The BFP and the BJMP shall construct, establish, operate and maintain their
13 respective regional officers in each of the administrative regions of the country which
14 shall be respectively headed by a Regional Director for Fire Protection and a Regional
15 Director of Jail Management and Penology with the rank of [senior superintendent]
16 **BRIGADIER GENERAL**. He/she shall be respectively assisted by the following
17 officers with the rank of [superintendent] **COLONEL**: Assistant Regional Director
18 for Administration, Assistant Regional Director for Operations, and Regional Chief of
19 Directorial Staff: **PROVIDED, THAT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION,**
20 **THE AFOREMENTIONED OFFICERS SHALL HAVE THE RANK OF**
21 **BRIGADIER GENERAL.**"

22
23 **SEC. 2.** Section 5, paragraph d of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

24
25 "SEC. 5. *Appointment of Uniformed Personnel to the BFP and the BJMP.* – The
26 appointment of the BFP and the BJMP shall be effected in the following manners:

27
28 (a) Fire/Jail Officer I to Senior Fire/Jail Officer IV. – Appointed by the respective
29 Regional Director for Fire Protection and Regional Director for Jail
30 Management and Penology for the regional office uniformed personnel or by
31 the respective Chief of the Fire Bureau and Chief of the Jail Bureau for the
32 national headquarters office uniformed personnel, and attested by the Civil
33 Service Commission (CSC).

34 (b) x x x

35 (c) x x x

36 (d) Fire/Jail [Chief Superintendent] **BRIGADIER GENERAL** to Fire/Jail
37 [Director] **GENERAL**. – Appointed by the President upon recommendation
38 of the Secretary of DILG, with the proper endorsement by the Chairman of the
39 Civil Service Commission (CSC)."

40
41 **SEC. 3.** Section 7 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

42
43 "SEC. 7. *Professionalization and Upgrading of Qualification Standards in the*
44 *Designation of Uniformed Personnel of the BFP and the BJMP to Key Positions.* –

(a) No person shall be designated to the following key positions in the BFP unless he/she met the qualifications provided therein:

(1) Municipal Fire Marshal. – Should have the rank of [senior inspector] **LIEUTENANT COLONEL**, who must have finished at least second year Bachelor of Laws or earned at least twelve (12) units in a Master's Degree Program in Public Administration, Management, Engineering, Public Safety, Criminology or other related discipline from a recognized institution of learning, and must have satisfactorily passed the necessary training or career course for such position as may be established by the Fire Bureau;

(2) City Fire Marshal. – Should have the rank of [chief inspector] **COLONEL**, who must have finished at least second year Bachelor of Laws or earned at least twenty-four (24) units in a Master's Degree Program in Public Administration, Management, Engineering, Public Safety, Criminology, or other related discipline from a recognized institution of learning, and must have satisfactorily passed the necessary training or career courses for such position as may be established by the Fire Bureau;

[(3) District Fire Marshal, Provincial Fire Marshal, Assistant Regional director for Administration, Assistant Regional Director for Operations and Regional Chief of Directorial Staff. – Should have the rank of superintendent, who must be a graduate of Bachelor of Laws or a holder of a master's degree in public administration, management, engineering, public safety, criminology, or other related discipline from a recognized institution of learning, and must have satisfactorily passed the necessary training or career courses for such position as may be established by the Fire Bureau;]

[(4) District Fire Marshal for the National Capital Region, Regional Director for Fire Protection and Director of the Directorate of the National Headquarters Office. – Should have at least the rank of senior superintendent, who must be a graduate of Bachelor of Laws or a holder of master's degree in public administration, management, engineering, public safety, criminology, or other related discipline from a recognized institution of learning, and must have satisfactorily passed the necessary training or career course for such position as may be established by the Fire Bureau;]

(3) District Fire Marshal, District Fire Marshal for the National Capital Region, Provincial Fire Marshal, Assistant Regional Director for

Administration, Assistant Regional Director for Operations and Regional Chief of Directorial Staff. – Should have the rank of colonel, who must be a graduate of Bachelor of Laws or a holder of a Master's Degree in Public Administration, Management, Engineering, Public Safety, Criminology or other related discipline from a recognized institution of learning or career courses for such position as may be established by the Fire Bureau;

(4) **REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR FIRE PROTECTION, ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION (NCR) AND ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS (NCR).** – SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST THE RANK OF BRIGADIER GENERAL, WHO MUST BE A GRADUATE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS OR A HOLDER OF MASTER'S DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT, ENGINEERING, PUBLIC SAFETY, CRIMINOLOGY OR OTHER RELATED DISCIPLINE FROM A RECOGNIZED INSTITUTION OF LEARNING, AND MUST HAVE SATISFACTORILY PASSED THE NECESSARY TRAINING OR CAREER COURSE FOR SUCH POSITION AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE FIRE BUREAU;

(5) **DIRECTOR OF THE DIRECTORATE OF THE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS OFFICE AND REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION.** – SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST THE RANK OF MAJOR GENERAL, WHO MUST BE A GRADUATE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS OR A HOLDER OF MASTER'S DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT, ENGINEERING, PUBLIC SAFETY, CRIMINOLOGY OR OTHER RELATED DISCIPLINE FROM A RECOGNIZED INSTITUTION OF LEARNING, AND MUST HAVE SATISFACTORILY PASSED THE NECESSARY TRAINING OR CAREER COURSE FOR SUCH POSITION AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE FIRE BUREAU;

([5] 6) Deputy Chief for Administration of the Fire Bureau, Deputy Chief for Operations of the Fire Bureau and Chief Directorial Staff of the Fire Bureau. – Should have the rank of [superintendent] **LIEUTENANT GENERAL**, who must be a member of the Philippine Bar or a holder of a Master's Degree in Public Administration, Management, Engineering, Public Safety, Criminology or other related discipline from a recognized institution of learning or career courses for such as may be established by the Fire Bureau; and

1 (7) Chief of the Fire Bureau. – Should have the rank of [director]
2 **GENERAL**, who must be a member of the Philippine Bar or a holder of a
3 Master's Degree in Public Administration, Management, Engineering,
4 Public Safety, Criminology or other related discipline from a recognized
5 institution of learning, and must have satisfactorily passed the necessary
6 training or career courses for such position as may be established by the
7 Fire Bureau.
8

9 (b) No person shall be designated to the following key positions of the BJMP
10 unless he/she has met the qualification provided therein:
11

12 (1) Municipal Jail Warden. – Should have the rank of [chief inspector]
13 **LIEUTENANT COLONEL**, who have finished at least second year
14 Bachelor of Laws or earned at least twelve (12) units in a Master's
15 Degree Program in Management, Public Administration, Public Safety,
16 Criminology, Penology, Sociology, National Security Administration,
17 Defense Studies, or other related discipline from a recognized
18 institution of learning, and must have satisfactorily passed the
19 necessary training or career courses for such position as may be
20 established by the Jail Bureau;
21

22 (2) City Jail Warden. – Should have the rank of [chief inspector]
23 **COLONEL**, who must have finished at least second year Bachelor of
24 Laws or earned at least twenty four (24) units in Master's Degree
25 Program in Management, Public Administration, Public Safety,
26 Criminology, Penology, Sociology, National Security Administration,
27 Defense Studies or related discipline from a recognized institution of
28 learning and must have satisfactorily passed the necessary training or
29 career courses for such position as may be established by the Jail
30 Bureau: *Provided*, That in City Jails with a population of one thousand
31 (1,000) or more inmates, the City Jail Warden shall have the rank and
32 qualification of a District Jail Warden;
33

34 (3) District Jail Warden, Provincial Jail Administrator, Assistant Regional
35 Director for Administration, Assistant Regional Director for
36 Operations and Regional Chief of Directorial Staff. – Should have the
37 rank of [senior superintendent] **COLONEL**, who must be a graduate
38 of Bachelor of Laws or a holder of a Master's Degree in Management,
39 Public Administration, Public Safety, Criminology, Penology,
40 Sociology, National Security Administration, Defense Studies or other
41 related discipline from a recognized institution of learning or career
42 courses for such position as may be established by the Jail Bureau;
43

1 (4) Regional Director for Jail Management and Penology, and [Directorate
2 of the National Headquarters Office] **ASSISTANT REGIONAL**
3 **DERICTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION (NCR) AND ASSISTANT**
4 **REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS (NCR).** – Should
5 have the rank of [senior superintendent] **BRIGADIER GENERAL**,
6 who must be a graduate of Bachelor of Laws or a holder of a Master's
7 Degree in Management, Public Administration, Public Safety,
8 Criminology, Penology, Sociology, National Security Administration,
9 Defense Studies or other related discipline from a recognized
10 institution of learning, and must have satisfactorily passed the
11 necessary training or career courses for such position as may be
12 established by the Jail Bureau;

13
14 (5) **DIRECTOR OF THE DIRECTORATE OF THE NATIONAL**
15 **HEADQUARTERS OFFICE AND REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR**
16 **THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION. – SHOULD HAVE THE**
17 **RANK OF MAJOR GENERAL, WHO MUST BE A GRADUATE**
18 **OF BACHELOR OF LAWS OR A HOLDER OF A MASTER'S**
19 **DEGREE IN MANAGEMENT, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION,**
20 **PUBLIC SAFETY, CRIMINOLOGY, PENOLOGY,**
21 **SOCIOLOGY, NATIONAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION,**
22 **DEFENSE STUDIES OR OTHER RELATED DISCIPLINE**
23 **FROM A RECOGNIZED INSTITUTION OF LEARNING, AND**
24 **MUST HAVE SATISFACTORILY PASSED THE NECESSARY**
25 **TRAINING OR CAREER COURSES FOR SUCH POSITION AS**
26 **MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE JAIL BUREAU;**

27
28 (6) Deputy Chief for Administration of the Jail Bureau, Deputy Chief for
29 Operations of the Jail Bureau and Chief of Directorial Staff of the Jail
30 Bureau. – Should have the rank of [senior superintendent]
31 **LIEUTENANT GENERAL**, who must be a member of the Philippine
32 Bar of a holder of a Master's Degree in Management, Public
33 Administration, Public Safety, Criminology, Penology, Sociology,
34 National Security Administration, Defense Studies or other related
35 discipline from a recognized institution of learning, and must have
36 satisfactorily passed the necessary training or career courses for such
37 position as may be established by the Jail Bureau; and

38
39 (7) Chief of the Jail Bureau. – Should have the rank of [director]
40 **GENERAL**, who must be a member of the Philippine Bar or a holder
41 of a Master's Degree in Management, Public Administration, Public
42 Safety, Criminology, Penology, Sociology, National Security
43 Administration, Defense Studies or other related discipline from a
44 recognized institution of learning, and must have satisfactorily passed

1 the necessary training or career courses for such position as may be
2 established by the Jail Bureau.

3
4 Any uniformed personnel of the BFP and the BJMP who is currently occupying such
5 designation for more than five (5) years shall be reclassified of their ranks by
6 operation of law.”
7

8 **SEC. 4.** Section 12 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
9

10 “**SEC. 12. RANK CLASSIFICATION, Standardization of the Base Pay, Retirement**
11 *and other Benefits of the Uniformed Personnel of the BFP and the BJMP.* – In order to
12 enhance the general welfare, commitment to service and professionalism of the uniformed
13 personnel of the BFP and the BJMP, they shall receive the minimum starting salary
14 equivalent to the salary grade level of the corresponding rank classification of their
15 counterparts in the PNP, as provided under Section 36 of Republic Act No. 8551, and in the
16 AFP, as provided under Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9166.
17

18 [The rate of the base pay of the uniformed personnel of the BFP and the BJMP shall
19 be adjusted in accordance with the following salary grade schedule:] **FOR PURPOSES OF**
20 **EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION, SUPERVISION AND CONTROL, THE RANK**
21 **CLASSIFICATION AND THE CORRESPONDING RATE OF THE BASE PAY OF**
22 **THE UNIFORMED PERSONNEL OF THE BFP AND BJMP SHALL BE AS**
23 **FOLLOWS:**

RANK CLASSIFICATION	SALARY GRADE
FIRE/JAIL GENERAL	30
FIRE/JAIL LIEUTENANT GENERAL	29
FIRE/JAIL MAJOR GENERAL	28
FIRE/JAIL BRIGADIER GENERAL	27
FIRE/JAIL COLONEL	26
FIR/JAIL LIEUTENANT COLONEL	25
FIRE/JAIL MAJOR	24
FIRE/JAIL CAPTAIN	23
FIRE/JAIL LIEUTENANT	22
FIRE/JAIL EXECUTIVE MASTER SERGEANT	19
FIRE/JAIL CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT	18
FIRE/JAIL SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT	17
FIRE/JAIL MASTER SERGEANT	16
FIRE/JAIL STAFF SERGEANT	14
FIRE/JAIL CORPORAL	12
FIRE/JAIL MAN/WOMAN	10

24 **SEC. 5. Implementation Rules and Regulations.** – The DILG in coordination with
25 the BFP and the BJMP, the CSC, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and

1 the Department of Finance (DOF) shall, within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this
2 Act, promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provision of this Act.

3
4 **SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
5 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions
6 not affected thereby.

7
8 **SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – The renaming provisions of Republic Act No. 6975, as
9 amended by Republic Act No. 9263 that have reference to the rank and classification of the
10 uniformed personnel of the BFP and BJMP, and all laws, decrees, orders, rules and
11 regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions
12 of this Act, are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

13
14 **SEC. 8. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
15 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation,
16 whichever comes earlier.

Approved,