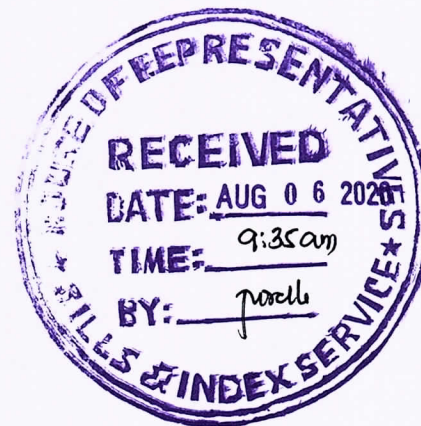


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7296



Introduced by Representatives
HORACIO P. SUANSING, JR. and ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE REGULARIZATION AND SALARY STANDARDIZATION
OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Barangay officials are the primary providers of the government's goods and services ranging from matters pertaining to public health, public order and safety, to disaster risk reduction and management as shown by the local government units' response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The national government depends on barangay officials, most especially in the remotest parts of the country, in the facilitation of various government projects at the most basic political unit. According to the survey of the Philippine Statistics Authority in 2018, there are 42,044 barangays in the country, which makes them the backbone of civil service.

However, barangay officials only receive monthly honoraria instead of fixed monthly salaries. Moreover, they are not entitled to the same employment benefits and privileges of other local government officials. In fact, they are ranked the lowest among all civil servants in terms of remuneration, benefits and privileges enjoyed and received.¹ It is therefore necessary for the national government to provide for their regularization and salary standardization that are commensurate with the role they perform in the delivery of social services.

Thus, this proposed bill endeavors to address this desire to give the much-needed recognition of the vital and immeasurable contribution of barangay officials to our nation by declaring all barangay officials as regular government officials while providing a salary standardization that is fitting to their role as dignified civil servants.

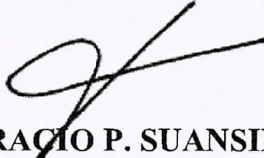
The bill proposes that the Punong Barangay, members of the Sangguniang Barangay, the Sangguniang Kabataan Chairperson, the Barangay Secretary, and Barangay Treasurer in all barangays shall be declared regular government employees, and as such entitled to fixed salaries, allowances, insurance, medical and dental coverage, retirement benefits and such other incentives and fringe benefits which, under Civil Service laws, rules and regulations, a regular government employee may be entitled to. On the other hand, Barangay officials, personnel,

¹ DILG backs bill outlining salary structure for barangay officials, Business World, January 28, 2019, available at <https://www.bworldonline.com/dilg-backs-bill-outlining-salary-structure-for-barangay-officials/>

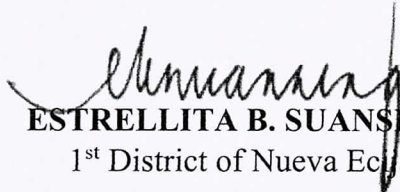
and volunteer workers shall be entitled to salaries, benefits or allowances as compensation for services they rendered.

The bill also mandates the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to develop a standardized Position Classification and Compensation Scheme for Barangay Officials, Personnel, and Volunteer Workers, taking into consideration the educational qualification and nature of work performed and the financial capability of barangays, and subject to the minimum qualification standards and guidelines to be prescribed by the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

In view of the foregoing, the passage of the measure is earnestly sought.



HORACIO P. SUANSING, JR.
2nd District of Sultan Kudarat



ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING
1st District of Nueva Ecija

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Officials Salary Standardization Act of 2020."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to raise the economic and social status of barangay officials and provide reforms to ensure the barangay's enjoyment of local autonomy for the effective performance of its role as the primary planning and implementing unit of government programs, projects, and activities, and as a forum in which the collective views of the people in the community may be crystallized and considered.

SECTION 3. *Declaration of Salary Standardization of Barangay Officials.* – The Punong Barangay, members of the Sangguniang Barangay, the Sangguniang Kabataan Chairperson, the Barangay Secretary, and Barangay Treasurer in all barangays are hereby declared regular government employees, and as such entitled to fixed salaries, allowances, insurance, medical and dental coverage, retirement benefits and such other incentives and fringe benefits which, under Civil Service laws, rules and regulations, a regular government employee may be entitled to.

SECTION 4. *Position Classification and Compensation Scheme for Barangay Officials, Personnel and Volunteer Workers.* - Barangay officials, personnel, and volunteer workers shall be entitled to salaries, benefits or allowances as compensation for services they rendered.

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall develop a standardized Position Classification and Compensation Scheme for Barangay Officials, Personnel, and Volunteer Workers, taking into consideration the educational qualification and nature of work performed and the financial capability of barangays, and subject to the minimum qualification standards and guidelines to be prescribed by the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

Such position classification and compensation and compensation scheme shall conform with the following guidelines:

- (a) The Position Classification and Compensation Scheme for Barangay Officials and Personnel shall be comprised of three salary grades, namely:
- i. Barangay Salary Grade I for barangay appointive officials and other barangay personnel;
 - ii. Barangay Salary Grade II for barangay elective officials in the Sangguniang Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan with the exception of the Punong Barangay, and
 - iii. Barangay Salary Grade II I for Punong Barangay.
- (b) The minimum salary for barangay officials and personnel shall be as follows:
- i. Barangay Salary Grade I – Fifteen Thousand Pesos (P15,000.00)
 - ii. Barangay Salary Grade II – Twenty-Five Thousand Pesos (P25,000.00)
 - iii. Barangay Salary Grade III – Thirty-Five Thousand Pesos (P35,000.00)

Provided, that no barangay official or personnel shall suffer any reduction, diminution or withdrawal of salaries and benefits already enjoyed by the barangay official or personnel concerned: Provided, further that the budget ceiling for annual personnel services appropriations of fifty-five percent (55%) of the total annual income actually realized from local sources during the next preceding fiscal year, as provided in Section 331(b) of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991," shall apply.

- (c) Barangay volunteer workers shall be entitled to honoraria and other benefits, incentives or allowances to be determined in accordance with this Act.

SECTION 5. *Barangay Official Eligibility.* – Pursuant to Republic Act No. 7160 and Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 13, s. 2012, Barangay Officials shall be qualified for Barangay Official Eligibility based strictly on completion of term of office, subject to qualifications and provisions of the rules of the Civil Service Commission.

SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be funded by the National Government under the Annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,