

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7666



Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**
Party-List Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution guarantees that “[t]he State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.” In operationalizing this, the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) were established. Republic Act No. 8551, amending Republic Act No. 6975, states, in Section 2, paragraphs (2) and (3), that the PNP “shall be a community and service oriented agency responsible for the maintenance of peace and order and public safety,” with emphasis placed in honing the “efficiency and effectiveness of its members and units in the performance of their functions.” Meanwhile, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9514 provides that “[i]t is the policy of the State to ensure public safety, promote economic development through the prevention and suppression of all kinds, of destructive fires, and promote the professionalization of the fire service as a profession.”

While these policies make it clear that ensuring public safety is one of the Government’s priorities, and that it relies on the PNP and BFP to enforce and defend the same, it also becomes unquestionable that the very personnel of those two frontliner agencies should themselves be well-protected. The unavoidable conclusion is that the Congress bears the responsibility of enacting measures to keep PNP and BFP personnel as safe as possible from the hazards of their duties. These men and women should always be able to charge head on into their duties with the thought that there would be dedicated and competent medical professionals ready to come to their aid, should they so need such attention. Moreover, they should be assured that, should the situation ever call for procedures a step above first aid, there would still be no problem getting that.

Congress can carry out that responsibility through this Bill, which shall have every police station and fire station staffed with at least one certified

1 Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), whose training and/or education already
2 qualify them as paramedics. Additionally, this Bill shall provide for: 1) regular
3 mandatory training for the EMTs; and 2) competitive salary as incentive for the
4 said EMTs to continuously serve at their posts.

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6 It is for the foregoing premises that the approval of this Bill is earnestly
7 sought.
8



ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS

Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party-List

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR PARAMEDICS TO BE STATIONED AT EACH
POLICE STATION AND FIRE STATION IN THE PHILIPPINES**

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Paramedics for
2 Firefighters and Police Officers Act.”

3
4 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes its duties of
5 securing the safety of the first responder personnel in the Philippine National
6 Police (PNP) and the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), especially at the scene of
7 their operations. As such, the State acknowledges the necessity of providing
8 paramedic-level Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) in each of the police
9 stations and fire stations.

10
11 SECTION 3. *Hiring of Paramedics.* – The Department of Interior and Local
12 Government (DILG) shall hire certified EMTs, whose training and/or education
13 qualify them as paramedics, and shall station at least one such EMT in every
14 police station and fire station in the Philippines.

15
16 The list of qualifications of the EMTs, as well as the procedures the
17 application, evaluation, and selection processes, shall be decided with finality in
18 close consultation with the Department of Health (DOH) and the Technical
19 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), to ensure that the EMTs
20 shall be properly trained in, and authorized to, perform medical procedures more
21 advanced than first aid measures.

22
23 SECTION 4. *Training of Paramedics.* – All EMTs hired under this Act shall
24 be required to attend and participate in regular practical training and other
25 avenues or forms of continuous education.

1
2 Those whose performance have been exemplary, for a certain period of
3 review, the procedures and standards of which shall be detailed in the
4 Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of this Act, may be sponsored by the
5 DILG and sent as a national representative to international level trainings,
6 seminars, and the like.

7
8 SECTION 5. *Competitive Salary for Paramedics.* – All EMTs hired under
9 this Act shall be provided with a competitive salary, to incentivize them towards
10 long-term service with the PNP or BFP.

11
12 SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DILG, as lead
13 implementing agency, shall produce this Act's IRR. In so doing, it shall have
14 consultations with the PNP and the BFP, as well as the DOH and TESDA.

15
16 SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is
17 held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts unaffected
18 shall remain in full force and effect.

19
20 SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, presidential
21 decrees or issuances, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules, and
22 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
23 repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

24
25 SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
26 after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general
27 circulation.

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30 Approved,