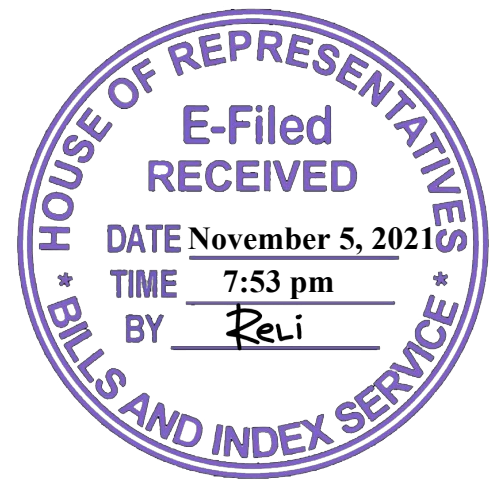


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10447



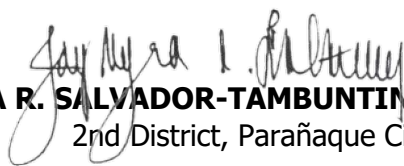
Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA R. SALVADOR-TAMBUNTING**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

One important advancement in the country's justice system is the paradigm shift from the punitive to restorative and rehabilitative correctional system. Restorative justice emphasizes the need to treat persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) with respect and allow them to reintegrate into the larger community. This requires jails to not just be places of detention and imprisonment, but also be a place of restoration and healing. The present conditions of our jails and detention centers do not allow for this. At present, the prison population is among the country's most neglected sector. Many detention centers in the Philippines fail to meet the minimum United Nations standards for such facilities, including inadequate amounts of food, poor nutrition, and unsanitary conditions.

Improving prison conditions have always been a challenge for the Philippines. It requires a lot of resources and a high degree of professional skill and awareness of the concept of restorative justice among jail and correctional officers. Those who work in prisons should be capable of performing professionally and are equipped with the knowledge, skills and attitude to perform their duties well and with respect for the rights and dignity of detainees. It is in this light the we propose this measure to professionalize our jail management and corrections administration by introducing qualifications for superintendents of prison in the national prison system and wardens of provincial or municipal jails. This will ensure that officials in control of the prison system are highly competent and fair-minded individuals who are capable of leading the system to the a better and more humane path.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


JOY MYRA R. SALVADOR-TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA R. SALVADOR-TAMBUNTING**

**AN ACT TO PROFESSIONALIZE THE PRACTICE OF PRISON MANAGEMENT AND
DIRECTION**

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

Section 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Professionalization of Prison Management Act”.

Sec. 2. Qualifications of Superintendents of Prisons in the National Prison System. – All Superintendents of Prisons or Colonies or Prison Farms of the National Prison System shall have the following qualifications at the time of their appointment:

- a) Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Law, preferably a Member of the Philippine Bar; or a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, or its equivalent with at least twelve (12) units in Psychology or Sociology;
- b) Training and experience of at least five (5) years in corrections and prison management; and
- c) Of good moral character with reputation in the community for probity and fair-mindedness and who has never been convicted of a criminal offense nor charged administratively for an act involving moral turpitude.

Sec. 3. Qualifications of Wardens of Provincial City or Municipal Jails. – All wardens of Provincial, City or Municipal Jails shall have the following qualifications;

- a) Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Law, Public Administration, Psychology or its equivalent, with at least twelve (12) units in Behavioral Sciences, Sociology or Psychology;
- b) Training and experience of at least three (3) years in corrections and prison management; and
- c) Of good moral character with a reputation in the community for probity and fair-mindedness and who has never been convicted of a criminal offense nor charged administratively.

Sec. 4. Jail Management and Correction Administration Training. – The Integrated National Police and/or the National Police Academy shall conduct courses and seminars on Jail Management and correction administration for nominees and incumbents of Prison Superintendent or Jail Warden Positions. Incumbent Superintendents and Wardens shall be required to pass courses for jail management and corrections administration in order to retain their positions.

When feasible, Superintendents and Wardens shall be sent for training abroad in jail management and corrections administration.

Sec. 5. Equivalence of Position, Rank, Salary, and Privileges. – Superintendents of the National Prison System shall enjoy in position, rank, salary and privileges of an Assistant Bureau Director, provincial, city and municipal jail wardens shall enjoy the position, rank, salary and privileges of a Division Head of a Bureau: Provided, that said Superintendents or Wardens shall have the qualifications herein set forth: Provided, further, the incumbents shall have to first qualify for the requirement of the position herein set forth before they can enjoy the position, rank, salary, privileges herein set forth: Provided, finally, that said incumbents shall continue to discharge the duties of Superintendent or Warden until reassigned, retired or separated from office, or otherwise replaced by the appointing authority by a qualified official.

Sec. 6. Repealing Clause. – Any provision of law, presidential decree, executive order, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect upon approval and completion of its publication in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,