

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 10585

Introduced by: **CONG. “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II Section 9 of the Philippine Constitution provided that the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

Our social workers play a very important role in fulfilling the abovementioned mandate. According to the definition given by the International Federation of Social Workers, social work is a profession and academic discipline that “promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people.

The government recognized the crucial role of social workers in nation-building and human development, and enacted the Magna Carta for Public Social Workers to “promote the social and economic well-being of public social workers, their living and working conditions, and terms of employment.

They have been in the frontlines, even before the pandemic, distributing aid to poor families, comforting children and listening to them speak about trauma of neglect, abuse or armed conflict, training women to build and manage social enterprises, collecting and narrating stories of struggle and success.

As recognition to their dedication and diligence in serving the Filipino people, this measure proposes to increase the compensation given to our social workers. It is most fitting time to extend our broad support to the valuable asset of the government.

Thus, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

CONG. “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO

Representative
1st District, Bulacan

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Introduced by: **CONG. “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

AN ACT
INCREASING THE COMPENSATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS IN GOVERNMENT
SERVICE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9433,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR PUBLIC SOCIAL
WORKERS”

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 “Lingkod Expanded Magna Carta for Public Social Workers Act of 2021”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to alleviate the living condition of public social workers and to guarantee their right to a living wage. The State shall protect and promote the rights and welfare of social workers in the public sector.

SECTION 3. Section 3(c) of Republic Act No. 9433, otherwise known as the “Magna Carta for Public Social Workers”, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act, the following shall mean as follows:

“(a) x x x

“(b) x x x

“(c) ‘Public Social Worker’ – refers to civilian government personnel whose position requires at least a bachelor’s degree in social work, and registration or license as a social worker, whether or not the position title carries the words ‘social welfare’, such as positions concerning community affairs and development, disaster risk and management, gender and development, labor and employment, peace, early childhood and development, volunteer service, youth development and assistance to veterans;

“x x x”

SECTION. 4. Section 4 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**SEC. 4. Coverage.** This Act shall cover all registered social workers in government service, including those whose services are engaged through job orders or contracts of service.”

SECTION 5. Section 12 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 12. Compensation. – Applicable laws, rules and regulations on salary scales of government employees shall apply in determining the salaries of public social workers; *Provided*, That the salary grade of entry-level junior officer public social workers shall be at least Salary Grade 13; *Provided*, however, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to eliminate or in any way diminish benefits being enjoyed by public social workers at the time of the effectivity of this Act; *Provided*, further, That in case of violations of this provision, the public social worker concerned shall file the necessary complaint to the CSC or NLRC through the Social Work Management and Consultative Council; *Provided*, finally, That for local government units which do not have adequate or sufficient funds shall only partially implement the established rate as may be approved by the Social Work Management and Consultative Council.”

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Department of Budget and Management, in consultation with the Social Work Management and Consultative Council, shall, within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, modify the Index of Occupational Services, Occupational Groups, Classes and Salary Grades to adjust the salary grades of public social workers.

SECTION 7. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 8. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, issuances or portion thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

