

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1670



Introduced by BHW PARTYLIST REP. ANGELICA NATASHA A. CO

AN ACT
DECLARING APRIL 7 EVERY YEAR AS BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS' DAY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

For decades, Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) have been a major force in the promotion of primary health care in every Filipino community, especially in far flung areas where medical doctors and other health professionals are not present. They fill the gap in the delivery of health services when and where duty calls, even in the most precarious situations - - out of love and affection for their fellowmen.

For decades they have been known to us simply as volunteers who relentlessly served in the front lines unselfishly - saving lives even as they, too, are in peril or face difficulties and suffer from poverty, sickness and misfortunes wrought by men and nature.

For decades, they served as healers of our communities, not only of sickness or disease but of weary hearts and minds - - giving hope even as they, too, are in distraught but courage they must show to revive enthusiasm and lift the community spirit to strive and persist against all odds.

Barangay Health Workers are guardians of the nation's health worthy of emulation as patriots. Their role and contribution cannot be overemphasized and it is only fitting that we honor them by celebrating their heroic deeds.

In this light, this bill proposes to declare April 7 of every year as Barangay Health Workers Day which coincides with the World Health Day to mark the anniversary of the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948. On this day, it is proposed that simple ceremonies or activities may be held by concerned national government agencies and local government units to highlight the BHWs indispensable role to barangay health and wellness across the nation.

This bill was approved by the House of Representatives and transmitted to the Senate in the 18th Congress.

The immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


REP. ANGELICA NATASHA A. CO
BHW PARTYLIST

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

SECTION 1. - April 7 of every year is hereby declared as Barangay Health Workers' Day to be known, otherwise, as BHW Day.

SEC. 2. The Department of Health (DOH) in cooperation with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and all Local Government Units in the country are hereby enjoined to hold simple ceremonies or activities to highlight the BHWs indispensable role to barangay health and wellness across the nation.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Approved,