

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2119



INTRODUCED BY: HONORABLE ROSEMARIE C. PANOTES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to increase the monetary and non-monetary benefits of barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the Lupong Tagapamayapa.

Republic Act No. 7160, as amended otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 was considered as the linchpin of the administration of then President Corazon C. Aquino due mainly to the gargantuan powers and responsibilities which had been devolved to local government units. Even the officials occupying elective and appointive posts in the smallest political units called barangays, enjoy certain powers. Responsibilities. These powers and responsibilities should be matched with certain benefits and privileges considering the fact that these barangay officials are considered the front-liners in the delivery of basic services to our people, especially in far-flung barangays.

Several attempts had been made to increase the benefits and privileges of our barangay officials but all efforts of Congress in the past came to naught due to lack of funds. It is necessary however, to find other ways in order to grant the long overdue benefits to our hardworking barangay officials. Under this bill, an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the share of the national government under Section 284 of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended shall be used for this purpose. The proceeds shall be lumped in the Barangay Retirement Gratuity Fund (BRGF) to be created for the purpose, which shall be used to fund the retirement gratuity and other benefits of barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the Lupong Tagapamayapa. The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall administer and ensure the appropriate disbursement of the Fund.

In view of the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

Rosemarie C. Panotes
ROSEMARIE C. PANOTES
Representative

Second District, Camarines Norte

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AN ACT
INCREASING THE HONORARIUM AND CHRISTMAS BONUS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA AND GRANTING A LUMP SUM GRATUITY PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (150,000.00), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 AS AMENDED OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

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

SECTION 1. Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160 as amended otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 393. *Benefits of Barangay Officials.* (a) Barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the Lupong Tagapamayapa, shall receive honoraria, allowances, and such other emoluments as may be authorized by law barangay, municipal or city ordinance in accordance with the provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than [One thousand [(P1,000.00)] TEN THOUSAND (P10,000.00) pesos per month for the punong barangay and [Six hundred P600.00] FIVE THOUSAND (P5,000.00) pesos per month for the sangguniang barangay members, [and] barangay treasurer, barangay secretary AND THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000.00) FOR BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA: *Provided, however,* That annual appropriations for the personal services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under Title Five, Book II of this Code.

(b) The punong barangay, the sangguniang barangay members, the barangay treasurer, and the barangay secretary shall also:

- (1) Be entitled to Christmas bonus of at least [One] THREE thousand pesos each, the funds for which shall be taken from the general fund of the barangay or from such other funds appropriated by the national government for the purpose [;] : *PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA SHALL ALSO ENJOY THIS BENEFIT.*
- (2) Be entitled, during their incumbency, to insurance coverage which shall include, but shall not be limited to temporary and permanent disability, double indemnity, accident insurance, death and burial benefits, in accordance with Republic Act Numbered Sixty-nine hundred forty-two (R.A. 6942) entitled, "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor";
- (3) Be entitled to free medical care, including subsistence, medicines, and medical assistance in any government hospital or institution: *Provided, That* such hospital care shall include surgery or surgical expenses, medicines, X-rays, laboratory fees, and other hospital expenses;

In case of extreme urgency where there is no available government hospital or institution, the barangay official concerned may submit himself for immediate attendance to the nearest private clinic, hospital or institution and the expenses not exceeding Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) that may be incurred therein shall be chargeable against the funds of the barangay concerned;

- [(4) Be exempted, during their incumbency, from paying tuition and matriculation fees for their legitimate dependent children attending state college or universities. He may likewise avail of such educational benefits in a state college or university located within the province or city to which the barangay belongs; and]
- (5) Be entitled to appropriate civil service eligibility on the basis of the number of years of service to the barangay, pursuant to the rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission[.]
AND
- (6) BE ENTITLED TO A LUMP SUM RETIREMENT GRATUITY PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE (1) YEAR HONORARIUM, BUT IN NO CASE SHALL EXCEED ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P150,000.00) TO BE TAKEN FROM THE BARANGAY RETIREMENT FUND: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A RETIREE IS AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OF AGE WITH A MINIMUM OF NINE (9) YEARS IN SERVICE AT THE TIME OF THE RETIREMENT;*

AS USED IN THIS SUB-SECTION, THE TERM
"RETIREE" SHALL INCLUDE ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS,
INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE
LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA;

(c) xxx xxx xxx

(d) All duly appointed members of the barangay tanod
brigades, or their equivalent, which shall number not more than twenty
(20) in each barangay, shall be granted insurance, or other benefits during
their incumbency, chargeable against to the barangay or city or municipal
government to which the barangay belongs.

SEC. 2. *Barangay Retirement Gratuity Fund (BRGF) Created.* -

There is hereby created a Barangay Retirement Gratuity Fund (BRGF)
which shall be used to fund the retirement of barangay officials, including
barangay tanods and members of the Lupong Tagapamayapa, as
mentioned in this Act. The amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the
share of the national government under Section 284 of the Local
Government Code of 1991, as amended shall be used for this purpose.

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall
administer and ensure the appropriate disbursement of the Fund.

SEC. 3. *Coverage.* - The benefits granted under this Act shall cover all
barangay officials, barangay tanods and members of the Lupong Tagapamayapa.

SEC. 4. *Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Budget and
Management (DBM), in coordination with the DILG, and the Department of
Transportation (DOTr), shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to
implement this Act.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules
and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or
modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its
publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,