

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3534



Introduced by Honorable Oscar G. Malapitan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare April 7 of every year as the Barangay Health Workers' Day in recognition of the barangay health workers' invaluable service in the promotion and delivery of the basic health care in our communities.

The barangay health workers (BHWs) are government-trained health volunteers who have been giving invaluable service in urban and rural barangays since 1981. For more than forty (40) years, the BHWs have been our health information disseminators, the nurturers of expectant mothers and sick children, and the providers of compassionate health care to many Filipinos even in the remotest areas of the country. They are the front-liners in providing health care services to urban and rural communities.

With the resurgence of disease outbreaks in different areas in the country, the BHWs serve as the primary caregivers of many poor Filipinos. As one of the most dedicated sectors in the government service, they are engaged in the toughest of jobs. However, it is distressing that their efforts remain unrecognized and disregarded.

For their services, commitment and sacrifices, barangay health workers, deserve a day of the year to commemorate their invaluable contribution in building a healthy nation. Hence, this bill.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is highly recommended.

HON. OSCAR G. MALAPITAN

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AN ACT
DECLARING APRIL 7 OF EVERY YEAR AS BARANGAY HEALTH
WORKERS DAY TO BE KNOWN AS BHW DAY

Be it enacted by the Senate and 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 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 are hereby enjoined to hold simple ceremonies or activities to highlight the indispensable role of Barangay Health Workers (BHWs).

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

Approved,