

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3841**

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Introduced by **HON. MICHAEL M. MORDEN**

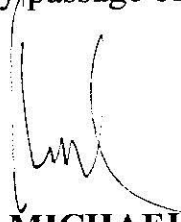
EXPLANATORY NOTE

A Barangay Tanod is the basic law enforcement officer in the lowest political unit in our country. Also known as Barangay Police Officers or Barangay Public Safety Officers (BPSO), they are the village watchmen supervised by the Barangay Chairperson. Barangay Tanods are also the frontliners in responding to any emergency, public disorder, calamities, even disasters that pose a threat to the peace and order and security of the barangay. Mostly unarmed or lightly armed with truncheons, they roam by walking in our barangays especially at night.

Through the years, the plight of these Barangay Tanods have been forgotten. Although they are given some benefits for the task they perform, it is a fact that such benefits are not commensurate with the risk they are encountering while they are on duty. Thus, this proposed measure seeks to remedy the sad plight of our Barangay Tanods.

The proposed legislative measure seeks to increase the benefits presently received by our Barangay Tanods like Hazard Pay, Christmas Bonus equivalent to one-half (h) of what the present Punong Barangay is receiving; insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourth ($\frac{3}{4}$) of what the Punong Barangay is receiving; free legal services from government lawyers for criminal or civil cases filed against them in the performance of their duties; and preference in the availment of and or membership in barangay livelihood and development projects.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



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AN ACT
UPGRADING THE BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES OF
BARANGAY TANOD MEMBERS WHO HAVE RENDERED AT
LEAST ONE YEAR OF SERVICE IN THE BARANGAY
GOVERNMENT

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

SECTION 1. The State recognizes the "Barangay Tanod", duly created under the provision of the Local Government Code, as an indispensable instrument in barangay government, particularly in the latter's role in the maintenance and protection of peace and security and the promotion of public safety within the barangay.

SECTION 2. As used herein, a Barangay Tanod, means a brigade or body composed of civilian volunteers, duly created at the barangay level, to assist the barangay officials in the effective exercises of law enforcement for the maintenance of peace and order and the promotion of public safety.

Barangay Tanod members refer to civilian volunteers, duly appointed by the Sangguniang Barangay, irrespective of the number thereof.

SECTION 3. Without in any way diminishing the benefits and privileges already granted by the Local Government and other related laws, a member of the Barangay Tanod who has rendered continuous service for at least one (1) year in any barangay shall, during his incumbency, be entitled to the following

Hazard Pay of P 1,000 per month

- (a) Christmas bonus equivalent to at least one half (1/2) of what the Punong Barangay is receiving, as mandated by law or ordinance;
- (b) An insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourths (3/4) of that received by the Punong Barangay, in accordance with Republic Act Sixty-Nine Forty-Two (RA 6942) otherwise known as "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits Of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor" or the amount provided for under Section 393(d) of the Local Government Code, whichever is higher;
- (c) Free legal services from government lawyers for criminal and civil cases filed against him, arising from acts committed in the performance of his duties. Provided, that such legal services shall continue, even after the term of the Barangay Tanod member as long as the subject of the cases filed against him arises from acts committed in the performance of his duties;
- (d) Preference in the availment of and/or membership in barangay livelihood and development projects, whether initiated by the National Government or the local government units (LGUs).

SECTION 4. A Barangay Tanod member who is yet to render service as such, to any barangay for a period of one (1) year shall receive the benefits and privileges as mandated by the Local Government Code.

SECTION 5. A Barangay Tanod, once appointed, shall not be removed as such nor his services be terminated, except for causes enumerated by the barangay resolution creating the Barangay Tanod, which shall take into consideration the integrity, responsibility and accountability in barangay service of the barangay tanod concerned. The decision to remove a Barangay Tanod for cause shall rest upon the decision of the Sangguniang Barangay concerned.

SECTION 6. Such sums, as may be necessary for the implementation of the provision of this Act, are hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, the amount needed to implement this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) under the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SECTION 7. All general and special laws, acts, city or municipal ordinances, executive orders, proclamations and administrative regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. The Department of Interior and Local Government shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen days after the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,