

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **6531**



Introduced by Representative Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines' geographical location means that it is prone not only to storm surges and typhoons, but also to other natural disasters such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. Aside from these numerous fortuitous events, the country is also prone to flooding resulting to millions-worth of damages to property and infrastructure, loss of livelihood, and even loss of life.

Volunteer responders are modern-day heroes that provide indispensable help not only to the local government units but most especially to the families heavily impacted by the occurrence of natural disasters. Many lives are saved through their commendable efforts, often at the risk of their own.

Hence, this measure intends to reward the valiant contributions of volunteer responders to the society during dire times. For this purpose, they would be granted financial, medical, and other benefits to incentivize and acknowledge their role in the service of the Filipino people during times of disasters, calamities, and other emergencies.

The volunteer responders' selfless efforts and unmatched bravery in the face of dangerous situations deserve to be recognized and rewarded. In light of this, the swift passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.
3rd District, CAMARINES SUR

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE VOLUNTEER RESPONDERS INCENTIVES
PROTECTION PROGRAM THEREBY PROVIDING FINANCIAL AND/OR NON-
PECUNIARY BENEFITS ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE WHO BECOME VICTIMS
THEMSELVES OF SUCH DISASTERS, CALAMITIES OR EMERGENCIES IN THE
COURSE OF DUTY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Volunteer Responders Incentives Protection Act of 2022"

SECTION 2. There shall be established a Volunteer Responders Incentives Protection Program with the Office of Civil Defense of the Department of National Defense as the Office of Primary Responsibility.

SECTION 3. Under this Act, volunteer responders shall be provided financial, medical and/or other non-pecuniary benefits or incentives in exchange of the value of time they donate to perform with skill volunteer emergency, calamity, or disaster services. Provided further that, similar or related entitlements as may later be granted shall accrue to the benefit of volunteer responders especially for those who become victims and suffer injury or even death.

SECTION 4. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,