Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10519

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Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE "JINKY BITRICS" R. LUISTRO

AN ACT PROVIDING ADDITIONAL RETIREMENT BENEFITS TO ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1991 Local Government Code recognizes the barangay as the basic political unit of the Philippines, serving as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities within the community. Furthermore, it functions as a forum where the collective views of the people may be expressed, crystallized, and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled. These roles underscore the political and administrative importance of the barangay as a local government unit.

Barangay governments also act as the springboard for aspiring political leaders, serving as training grounds for vibrant and innovative proponents of change and acting as microcosms of national leadership. Barangay officials are instrumental in shaping the future, given their close interactions with their communities and their hands-on approach to governance. Despite their crucial role, barangay officials receive the lowest honorarium or allowances compared to other government officials, and at the end of their service, they also receive the lowest retirement or pension benefits, if any. This bill seeks to rectify this disparity by providing additional retirement benefits to barangay officials, recognizing their dedication, sacrifice, and contributions to their communities. The proposed additional retirement benefits will include pensions or lump-sum payments to be given to barangay officials or their families/beneficiaries upon retirement. This financial support is intended to assist them during their greatest time of need, acknowledging that no amount of recognition can fully compensate for their heroic deeds and commitment to public service.

This bill underscores the importance of providing adequate retirement benefits to barangay officials, reflecting their vital role in local governance and community development. By ensuring that these officials are supported in their retirement, we acknowledge their invaluable contributions and pave the way for more effective local governance.

In view of the foregoing, approval of the Bill is earnestly sought.

HON. ATTY. GERVILLE "JINKY BITRICS" R. LUISTRO

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

SECTION. 1. ***Title*** - This Act shall be known as the " Expanded Barangay Retirement Benefits Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. ***Additional Retirement Benefits*** - In addition to the retirement benefits being extended to Barangay Officials by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) under Republic Act. No. 8291, all barangay officials, elective or appointive, shall be entitled to additional retirement benefits subject to the limitations provided by law.

Retirement benefits shall be in the form of a lump sum payment equivalent to one (1) year honorarium, but in no case shall exceed One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) payable at the time of retirement to be taken from the Barangay Retirement Fund;

As used in this section, the term "retiree" shall include all barangay officials, including Barangay Tanods, members of the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa, Barangay Health Workers and Barangay Day Care Workers.

SEC. 3. ***Conditions for Entitlement*** - A barangay official, elected or appointed, who retires from the service shall be entitled to the retirement benefits provided, That:

(1) he has rendered at least nine (9) years of service; and
(2) he is at least sixty (60) years of age at the time of retirement;

SEC. 4. ***Barangay Retirement Fund*** – There is hereby created a Barangay Retirement Fund (BRF) which shall be used to fund the retirement of barangay officials 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. 5. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations*** **-** The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination and consultation with other agencies concerned, shall promulgate and issue necessary implementing rules and regulations as maybe necessary for proper speedy and effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. ***Repealing Clause*** - All laws or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified as the case may be.

SEC. 7. ***Effectivity*** - This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

APPROVED,