

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10909



Introduced by **HON. BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE


Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Constitution recognizes that "the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy." Largely unnoticed, Barangay Tanods play a direct role in achieving these goals by maintaining peace and order and promoting public safety at the community level.

These unsung heroes are our government's front-liners in ensuring that every corner of the barangay remains safe—especially at night when most of the community is resting. Their tasks range from responding to minor altercations, patrolling crime-prone areas, and ensuring local peace. However, despite their service, their compensation and benefits have long been inadequate, making them vulnerable not only to physical risks but also to legal and financial troubles.

Under the Local Government Code of 1991, members of the Barangay Tanod brigades are provided with some benefits and privileges. However, these benefits are not commensurate with their commitment to public service.

The proposed measure aims to remedy these gaps by providing members of the Barangay Tanod brigades with enhanced protection through an insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourths (3/4) of that received by the Punong Barangay, along with free legal assistance for any cases, criminal or civil, arising from actions taken in the line of duty. Additionally, the bill seeks to provide them with Christmas bonuses and prioritize their inclusion in the government's livelihood programs, as fitting recognition for the important role they play in maintaining peace and order in our communities.

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



BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN
Representative
Bicol Saro Party-list

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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. Short title. — This Act shall be known as the “*Barangay Tanod Benefits and Protection Act of 2024*”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. — The State recognizes the Barangay Tanod, duly created under Chapter 2, Section 387 (b) 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 order and the promotion of public safety within the barangay.

SEC. 3. Definition. — 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 exercise 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.

SEC. 4. Scope. — The benefits provided under this Act shall apply to all members of the Barangay Tanod who have rendered continuous service for at least one year in the same barangay. A member of the Barangay Tanod 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.

SEC. 5. Grant of Benefits to Qualified Barangay Tanods. — Without in any way diminishing the benefits and privileges already granted by the Local Government

Code and other related laws, a member of the Barangay Tanod covered by this Act shall be entitled to the following benefits:

- (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 or her, arising from acts committed in the performance of his or her 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 or her arises from acts committed in the performance of his or her 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.

SEC. 6. Security of Tenure. — 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.

SEC. 7. Appropriations. — The amount necessary to implement this Act is 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 General Appropriations Act of the Department of Interior and Local Government.

SEC. 8. Implementing Rules. — The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in consultation with the Liga ng mga Barangay, shall, within thirty (30) days from effectivity of this Act, issue such rules and regulations necessary for the proper implementation of the provisions of this law.

SEC. 9. Repealing clause. — Any law, presidential decree, issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule and regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SEC. 10. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected hereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 11. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,