

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 554



Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

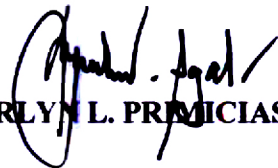
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to strengthen the security of tenure of Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) throughout the country.

The BHWs for many years played a pivotal role in the delivery of health services in the country. Being at the forefront of health related government programs, both national and local, they are considerably exposed to numerous hazards and long hours of work. As primary health care workers, they are involved with health and nutrition education, family planning services, maternal, newborn and child health care, and promotion of good hygiene and sanitation practices. In the Barangay Health Stations, they complement medical doctors, nurses, and midwives in the delivery of health services.

Considering their primary and indispensable role in the delivery of grassroots participatory health care program, there is an equal need to further strengthen the security of tenure of BHWs with the end in view of maintaining health program sustainability free from the threats of unlawful dismissal.

Hence, this request for the immediate passage of this bill.


MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-ABAGAS

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**AN ACT PROVIDING SECURITY OF TENURE FOR BARANGAY
HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 6 (D)
OF REPUBLIC ACT 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "BARANGAY
HEALTH WORKERS' BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995"**

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

SECTION 1. Section 6 (d) of Republic Act No. 7883 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC.6. *Incentives and Benefits.* ~ In recognition of their services, all accredited barangay health workers who are actively and regularly performing their duties shall be entitled to the following incentives and benefits:

“xxx

d) *Civil Service Eligibility.* - A second grade eligibility shall be granted to barangay health workers who have [rendered five (5)] THREE (3) years continuous services such: *Provided*, that should the barangay health worker become a regular employee of the government, the total number of years served as barangay health worker shall be credited to his/her services in computing retirement benefits.

NO PERSON DULY ACREDITED AS BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER SHALL BE DISMISSED EXCEPT FOR A VALID CAUSE AS PROVIDED UNDER EXISTING CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND ONLY AFTER DUE NOTICE AND HEARING.

xxx”

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders and other presidential issuances which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,