

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **1180**



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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed bill seeks to amend Section 58 of Republic Act 8551, otherwise known as the "*Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998*," in order to increase the quota requirement for female PNP officers, and to appropriate funds for the purpose.

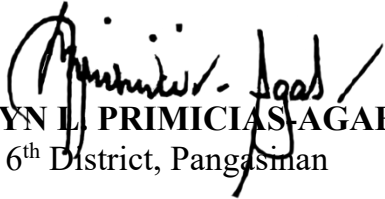
In the complexity of society and human interactions, it is inescapable that women and children, which are usually the more vulnerable sectors of our society, would be involved in assorted uncompromising situations requiring police interventions. These persons require sensitive handling which female police officers, because of their maternal instincts, can provide generally far better than their male counterparts.

To cater to the special needs of women and children, particularly in relation to crimes against chastity, sexual harassment and other abuses, Republic Act 8551 of 1998 required the establishment of the *Women's Desk and Child Protection* in all police stations. The same law also mandated the recruitment quota for women to ten percent (10%). But this was twenty-five years ago. Over the years, Philippine population has steadily increased and, at present, the Philippine population has significantly ballooned as compared to twenty-five years ago. And so, on the premise that the higher the population, the bigger the risk for women and children to be involved in undesirable situations requiring police actions, it is easy to assume that statistically more and more crimes are being committed against women and children; and that it is now opportune to increase the number of female personnel of the PNP. The contemplated amendment is a timely response to this need, as it increases the recruitment quota for female police officers from ten percent (10%) to fifteen percent (15%)—which is reasonable under extant circumstances.

Moreover, we are constrained to rethink this administrative reform in the wake of reported abuses perpetrated by male PNP officers against women and children while in their custody. To preclude these abuses from happening, it should be the policy of the State that only female police officers should have direct and immediate custody of women and

children brought to the police stations. There is an urgent need to strengthen women and child protection at the police precincts or other frontline offices; and this proposed bill, which calls for the increase in the number of women in the police force and the appropriation of funds for the purpose, is an important step toward this end.

Given the foregoing, the passage of the proposed bill is earnestly sought.


MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS AGABAS
6th District, Pangasinan

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1180

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

AN ACT
INCREASING THE RECRUITMENT QUOTA REQUIREMENT OF FEMALE
PNP OFFICERS, AMENDING SECTION 58 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8551,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Within the next five (5) years, the PNP shall reserve fifteen percent (15%) of its annual recruitment training and education quota for women; Provided, That the recruitment quota for women shall be increased to twenty percent (20%) five (5) years thereafter.

Section 2. The National Police Commission in coordination with the Philippine National Police and the Department of the Interior and Local Government, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act. Such rules and regulations shall take effect upon their publication in three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Section 3. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

Section 4. All laws, presidential decrees, letters of instructions, executive orders, rules and regulations insofar as they are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or amended, as the case may be.

Section 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,