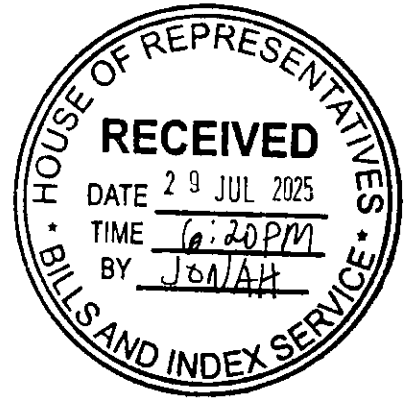




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Twentieth Congress

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2552

Introduced by

HON. REPRESENTATIVE LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE
4TH DISTRICT, BUKIDNON

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article X, Section 3 of the 1987 Constitution provides that:

"The Congress shall enact a local government code which shall provide for a more responsive and accountable local government structure through a system of decentralization with effective mechanisms of recall, initiative, and referendum, allocate among the different local government units their powers, responsibilities, and resources, and provide for the qualifications, election, appointment and removal, term, salaries, powers and functions and duties of local officials and all other matters relating to the organization and operation of the local units."

The barangay is the smallest administrative division in our country. It is empowered and mobilized to deliver basic services, and serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community. It is the frontline unit for combating poverty and addressing basic social services like health and education.

However, despite the potential opportunities for governance and development at the grassroots level, the barangay attracts a low

appreciation. It has become a microcosm of the national political environment. The usual programs, activities, and projects have superficial impact on the community's economy. Corruption in the form of kickbacks laces the said programs, activities, and projects.

Given the vital functions of the barangay local government and its officials in the community we live in, it is significantly noticeable that the meager amount of honoraria, allowances and emoluments they currently receive pursuant to Section 393 of the present Local Government Code are not compensatory to the valuable services they render. In order to justly and equitably give due recognition to the remarkable contributions of barangay officials in the true progress of the country, it is not only just but timely that we substantially increase the benefits of the barangay officials which therefore requires the necessary amendment of Section 393 of the 1991 Local Government Code.

This bill also seeks to provide retirement pay for barangay officials and for those who are working for the Barangay on a voluntary basis such as Barangay Tanods, Barangay Public Safety Officers, Barangay Day Care Workers and Barangay Nutrition Workers. It also proposes the institutionalization of retirement benefits for all barangay officials and workers to be sourced from the Barangay Retirement Gratuity Fund and which will be under the auspices of the Department of Interior and Local Government.

Given the above premises, the urgent passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


HON. LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE
4TH DISTRICT, BUKIDNON



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2552

Introduced by

HON. REPRESENTATIVE LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE
4th DISTRICT, BUKIDNON

AN ACT
INCREASING THE HONORARIUM AND CHRISTMAS BONUS OF ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS, MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS, BARANGAY PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS AND BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS, AND PROVIDING THEM A LUMP SUM RETIREMENT PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) AND OTHER NON-MONETARY BENEFITS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991 "

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

SECTION 1. Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 393. *Benefits of Barangay Officials* — (a) Barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the lupon tagapamayapa, shall receive honoraria, allowances, and such other emoluments as may be authorized by law or barangay, municipal or city ordinance in

accordance with the provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than ~~{One}~~ **FIVE** thousand pesos ~~{{P 1,000.00}}~~ **(5,000.00)** per month for the punong barangay and ~~{Six hundred}~~ **THREE THOUSAND** pesos ~~{{P 600.00}}~~ **(P 3,000.00)** per month for the sangguniang barangay members, ~~{and}~~ barangay treasurer, and barangay secretary **AND TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000 00) FOR BARANGAY TANODS, MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS, BARANGAY PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS, AND BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS:** *Provided*, however, That the annual appropriations for personal services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under Title Five, Book II of this Code.

(b) The punong barangay, the sangguniang barangay members, the barangay treasurer, and the barangay secretary shall also:

- (1) Be entitled to Christmas bonus of at least ~~{One}~~ **TWO** thousand pesos ~~{{P 1,000.00}}~~ **(P 2,000.00)** each, the funds for which shall be taken from the general fund of the barangay or from such other funds appropriated by the national government for the purposed ~~{:}~~: **PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT BARANGAY TANODS, MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS, BARANGAY PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS, AND BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS SHALL ALSO ENJOY THIS BENEFIT.**
- (2) Be entitled, during their incumbency, to insurance coverage which shall include, but shall not be limited to temporary and permanent disability, double indemnity, accident insurance, death and burial benefits, in accordance with Republic Act Numbered Sixty-nine hundred forty-two (R.A. No. 6942), entitled "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor,"
- (3) Be entitled to free medical care including subsistence, medicines, and medical assistance in any government hospital or institution: *Provided*, That such hospital care shall include surgery or surgical expenses, medicines, X-rays, laboratory fees, and other hospital expenses;

In case of extreme urgency where there is no available government hospital or institution, the barangay official

concerned may submit himself for immediate attendance to the nearest private clinic, hospital or institution and the expenses not exceeding Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) that may be incurred therein shall be chargeable against the funds of the barangay concerned;

BARANGAY OFFICIALS SHALL ALSO BE ENTITLED TO TEN PERCENT (10%) DISCOUNT, AND EXEMPTION FROM VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT), IF APPLICABLE, ON THE SALE OF GOODS AND SERVICES FROM ALL ESTABLISHMENTS, PARTICULARLY ON THE PURCHASE OF MEDICINES, AND OTHER ESSENTIAL MEDICAL SUPPLIES, ACCESSORIES AND EQUIPMENT TO BE DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH), AND ON THE PROFESSIONAL FEES OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR PHYSICIANS IN ALL PRIVATE HOSPITALS, MEDICAL FACILITIES, OUTPATIENT CLINICS AND HEALTH HOME CARE SERVICES;

- (4) Be exempted, during their incumbency, from paying tuition and matriculation fees for their legitimate dependent children attending state college or universities. He may likewise avail of such educational benefits in a state college or university located within the province or city to which the barangay belongs; ~~and~~
- (5) Be entitled to appropriate civil service eligibility on the basis of the number of years of service to the barangay, pursuant to the rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission;
- (6) BE ENTITLED TO A LUMP SUM RETIREMENT GRATUITY PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE (1) YEAR HONORARIUM, BUT IN NO CASE SHALL EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P 100,0000.00) TO BE TAKEN FROM THE BARANGAY FUND: PROVIDED, THAT THE RETIREE IS AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OF AGE WITH A MINIMUM OF NINE (9) YEARS IN SERVICE AT THE TIME OF THE RETIREMENT;**

AS USED IN THIS SUB-SECTION, THE TERM "RETIREE" SHALL INCLUDE ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS, MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG

TAGAPAMAYAPA, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS, BARANGAY PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS, AND BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS;

(7) BE ENTITLED TO A FRANKING PRIVILEGE. FOR THIS PURPOSE, BARANGAY OFFICIALS SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE PAYMENT OF POSTAGE ON ANY MAIL MATTER TO BE SENT TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE-INDIVIDUALS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS; AND

(8) BE ENTITLED TO TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT IN TRANSPORTATION FARE, AND HOTEL ACCOMODATION CHARGE.

(c) xxx

(d) All duly appointed members of the barangay tanod brigades, or their equivalent, which shall number more than (20) in each barangay, shall be granted insurance, **FREE TUITION AND MATRICULATION FEES FOR THEIR LEGITIMATE DEPENDENT CHILDREN ATTENDING STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**, or other benefits during their incumbency, chargeable to the barangay or the city or municipality government to which the barangay belongs.

SEC. 2. Barangay Retirement Gratuity Fund (BRGF) Created —

There is hereby created a Barangay Retirement Gratuity Fund (BRGF) which shall be used to fund the retirement gratuity of barangay officials, including barangay tanods, members of the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa, Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Day Care Workers, Barangay Public Safety Officers and Barangay Nutrition Workers as 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 3. Rules and Regulation — The Department of Budget and Management (DBM), in coordination with the DILG and Department of

Transportation (DOTR), shall issue the necessary rules and regulation to implement this Act.

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause— All laws, executive orders, issuance, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved.