

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **2591**



Introduced by **HON. JORGE DANIEL S. BOCOBO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Peace and order are indispensable constituents in upholding political stability, social order, and economic development.¹ It is said that when peace and order are present in our community there are many facets of human activities that are facilitated. These are but not limited to the growth of economy, increase of investments, spawning of job opportunities and enticement of more tourists.²

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), as protector of the people and the State, is responsible for upholding sovereignty, supporting the Constitution, and defending the national territory against internal and external threats. Meanwhile, the Philippine National Police (PNP) core mandate, defined in Republic Act No. 6975 and further elaborated by subsequent laws and regulations, is to enforce laws and ordinances, maintain peace and order, ensure public safety, and investigate and prevent crimes.

However, despite their critical roles in national security and peace and order, both the AFP and the PNP have always scrambled to look for funding specifically for developing and making improvements on their respective camps or headquarters, often seeking support from other agencies or local government units. This is the reason why in the 2020 General Appropriations Act (GAA), Congress allocated the amount of One Billion Pesos (PHP 1,000,000,000.00) each to the respective Camp Development Funds of the AFP and the PNP.

This measure is envisioned to provide a five-year program to modernize, develop, and upgrade military and police camps in accordance with development plans. These development plans, as well as procurements made under these plans, shall be transparent, but access thereto shall accordingly be restricted to ensure that confidential information relative to these plans and procurements shall not fall into the hands of "enemies of the state," in the interest of national security and public order.

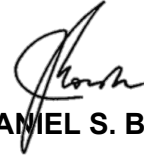
The establishment of military and police camps has historically been crucial for troop deployment, training, and strategic positioning. Likewise, infrastructure and development of military and police bases of operations also produce a multiplier effect in terms of generating employment, increasing foreign exchange earnings, and stimulating the local economy, all of which help to alleviate poverty.

¹ Nierras, Mario C. (2022). Peace and order: The inseparable partners to development. World Journal of Advanced Research and Reviews. Retrieved from: DOI: <https://doi.org/10.30574/wjarr.2022.14.1.0273>

² *Supra* Note at 1.

By ensuring that the AFP and the PNP have sufficient funding for their programs, including the development and improvement of their camps, headquarters, offices, and facilities, we are helping military and police personnel perform efficiently and realize their mandate.

For said reasons, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



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**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING CAMP DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
PHILIPPINES AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, APPROPRIATING THE SUM
TOTAL OF TWENTY-FIVE BILLION PESOS EACH FOR FIVE YEARS, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “AFP and PNP Camp Development Fund Act.”

SEC. 2. Appropriations. – (a) The sum of Five Billion Pesos (PHP 5,000,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated under the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) out of any funds in the National Treasury of the Philippines not otherwise appropriated, as supplemental appropriations for the FY 2026 Budget. Thereafter, for the next four (4) years, the sum of Five Billion Pesos (PHP 5,000,000,000.00) shall be appropriated every year for the Camp Development Fund of the AFP.

(b) The sum of Five Billion Pesos (PHP 5,000,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated under the Philippine National Police of the Philippines (PNP) out of any funds in the National Treasury of the Philippines not otherwise appropriated, as supplemental appropriations for the FY 2026 Budget. Thereafter, for the next four (4) years, the sum of Five Billion Pesos (PHP 5,000,000,000.00) shall be appropriated every year for the Camp Development Fund of the PNP.

SEC. 3. Camp Development Fund. – The amount appropriated herein to fund the Camp Development Funds of the AFP and the PNP shall be used exclusively for their respective Five-Year Camp Development Plans to develop and make improvements on their respective camps and the headquarters. This fund shall include spending for the following purposes, including but not limited to:

- a) Appropriate facilities and equipment for training, such as conference halls, seminar rooms, firing ranges, audio-visual rooms, and the like;
- b) Sports facilities, health and wellness facilities;
- c) Facilities for lodging;

- d) Provision for utilities such as internet connection, internet-abled communication devices, and the like;
- e) Security facilities and devices, other monitoring devices such as Closed-circuit television (CCTV);
- f) Such other necessary facilities as determined by the head of the agency.

Procurements made under these camp development plans shall adhere to the principles of transparency and accountability in the use of public funds. Furthermore, the Department of Budget and Management and the Commission on Audit shall develop and implement guidelines which allow procurement methods that ensure that the plans are restricted and held in confidence for national security and public order.

SEC. 4. Use and Release of Funds. – The amount appropriated shall be released by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to the AFP and the PNP in accordance with relevant budgeting, accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

SEC. 5. Availability of Appropriations. – The appropriations authorized in this Act shall be available for release and obligation for the purposes specified from the date of the effectivity of this Act until fully spent.

SEC. 6. Separability Clause. – If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts hereof not affected thereby shall remain valid.

SEC. 7. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,