

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2806**



Introduced by **Rep. FERDINAND ALEXANDER A. MARCOS**
1stDistrict, Ilocos Norte

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Philippine Constitution states that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them (Section 15, Article II).

It further provides that "The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers" (Sec. 11, Art. XIII).

Finally, it mandates that "The State shall establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system and undertake appropriate health manpower development and research, responsive to the country's health needs and problems" (Sec. 12, Art. XIII).

Under the Local Government Code of 1991, among the basic services and facilities which barangays are mandated to provide are "Health and social welfare services which include maintenance of Barangay health center and day-care center" (Sec. 17, R.A. No. 7160). In the list, however, of elective and appointive officials of barangays, conspicuously absent are barangay nutrition workers.

This bill, therefore, provides for the creation of a mandatory position of Barangay Nutrition Worker in every barangay in recognition of the manifold nutrition problems (indicative of malnutrition and under-nutrition are phenomena such as stunting, obesity, etc.) in our communities, especially as they affect preschool and school children, pregnant women and lactating mothers and other vulnerable groups in our barangays.

This measure repeals and supersedes Presidential Decree No. 1569, entitled "Strengthening The Barangay Nutrition Program By Providing For A Barangay Nutrition Scholar In Every Barangay, Providing Funds Therefor, And For Other Purposes", which was promulgated for a similar purpose.

In view of the foregoing considerations, the early approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Marcos', with a stylized, cursive script.

FERDINAND ALEXANDER A. MARCOS

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2806**

Introduced by **Rep. FERDINAND ALEXANDER A. MARCOS**
1st District, Ilocos Norte

AN ACT
CREATING THE POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN
EVERY BARANGAY, PROVIDING INCENTIVES THERETO, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 and referred to as the "**Barangay Nutrition Worker Act.**"

SEC. 2. Barangay Nutrition Program. To further strengthen the Barangay Nutrition Program, there shall be created under the administration and supervision of the National Nutrition Council, in coordination with the city or municipality and the barangay, one (1) mandatory position of Barangay Nutrition Worker in every barangay with a monthly allowance of not less than Five thousand pesos (Php 5,000.00).

SEC. 3. Barangay Nutrition Worker. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the concurrence of the majority of all Sangguniang Bayan or Sangguniang Panlungsod Members, and the Sangguniang Barangay concerned. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be responsible for delivering nutrition services and other related activities such as community health, backyard food production, environmental sanitation, culture, supplemental feeding and responsible parenthood to the barangay.

SEC. 4. Services. The Barangay Nutrition Worker, while undergoing training under the barangay nutrition program, shall serve the barangay on a voluntary basis for at least six (6) months. Thereafter, the National Nutrition Council shall assess his or her performance and make the necessary recommendation for his or her appointment.

SEC. 5. Qualifications. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall possess the following qualifications:

- (a) Bona fide resident of the barangay for at least one (1) year, with ability to speak the major dialect;

- (b) With leadership potentials and the initiative and willingness to serve the barangay for at least one (1) year;
- (c) Willingness to learn and to teach what he or she has learned to the barangay residents;
- (d) At least a secondary school graduate;
- (e) Physical and mental fitness; and
- (f) At least eighteen (18) years old but not more than sixty (60) years old.

SEC. 6. Recruitment. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be recruited from within the barangay and shall be tested on the basis of mental ability and work aptitude.

SEC. 7. Training. Before actual barangay service, the Barangay Nutrition Worker shall undergo appropriate and sufficient training on selected topics, such as nutrition, health, food production and environmental sanitation, based on defined task expectations to be conducted by a provincial training team in coordination with the municipal and barangay nutrition committee. This training shall be supplemented by a practicum to be conducted in the barangay where the worker is assigned, and such activity shall be in coordination with the local training team.

SEC. 8. Benefits. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be entitled to a training stipend, meal and travel allowance of at least Three hundred pesos (P300) per day. During the period of volunteer service prior to his or her appointment, the worker shall be entitled to allowance of Five thousand pesos (Php 5,000.00) a month.

The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be granted a civil service eligibility equivalent to second grade after the completion of at least two (2) years of continuous and satisfactory service in the barangay.

SEC. 9. Incentives. To further enhance the nutrition program, the National Nutrition Council, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education, shall formulate a scholarship program where incumbent and deserving barangay nutrition workers shall be given the opportunity to avail of a scholarship grant in any state college or university and pursue a course relevant to his or her present position.

SEC. 10. Nutrition Committees. The organization of local nutrition committees and the implementation of their respective nutrition programs shall be the responsibility of the Provincial/City Nutrition Committee headed by the Governor/City Mayor as Chairman and a Municipal Nutrition Committee headed by the Mayor as Chairman.

SEC. 11. Local Training Team. The local training team of the municipality or city shall be composed of two (2) members chosen from among the members of the Municipal or City Nutrition Committee. This team shall follow up the activities of the trained Barangay Nutrition Worker.

SEC. 12. Role of the Mayor. The Municipal or City Mayor shall initiate activities to implement the nutrition program within the municipality or city, organize the local training teams and may recommend the appropriation by the

municipality/city of a local counterpart in the form of additional allowance for the barangay nutrition worker.

SEC. 13. Barangay Nutrition Workers Staff Secretariat. There shall be a staff secretariat in every province/city which shall monitor the program, identify its problems and recommend possible solutions thereto.

SEC. 14. National Nutrition Council. The National Nutrition Council shall formulate rules and regulations, plans and programs within the limits set forth in this Act, allocate the funds to the various provinces and/or agencies, for disbursement in accordance with the financial plan of the Barangay Nutrition Program.

SEC. 15. Donations. For purposes of this Program, the National Nutrition Council and the local governments, are authorized to receive grants, donations, gifts or bequests from various government agencies and government corporations which shall be tax exempt.

SEC. 16. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act is hereby appropriated from any available funds in the National Treasury or from the Special Activities Fund and authorized to be released. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Local governments are likewise authorized to appropriate such amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act; Provided, That the city or municipality shall appropriate as part of its annual budget for personal services the necessary amount of Five thousand pesos (Php 5,000.00) per month per Barangay Nutrition Worker; and Provided further, That third to fifth class municipalities shall appropriate Two thousand pesos (Php 2,000.00) per month per Barangay Nutrition Worker. The difference in the Five thousand pesos (Php 5,000.00) monthly allowance per Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for the year following the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 17. Separability Clause. If any provisions or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions or parts thereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 18. Repealing Clause. The provisions of Presidential Decree No. 1569 and all other laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 19. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,