

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Bill No. 3070



Introduced by: Congressman **BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.**

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCES GEOGRAPHICAL UNIT
(CAFGU) ACTIVE AUXILIARIES (CAAs) OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
PHILIPPINES BY PRESCRIBING SALARY AND OTHER INCENTIVE
ALLOWANCES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit or CAFGU was created by virtue of Executive Order No. 264¹ on July 25, 1987, which was later supplemented by Republic Act No. 7077². CAFGU is a paramilitary force in the Philippines composed of civilians who are trained and armed to help the military in maintaining peace and order in rural areas.

CAFGU Active Auxiliary (CAA) members are recruited from the local communities and are trained by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). They are armed and equipped by the government and are tasked with assisting the AFP in security and development operations in their respective areas. Further, CAA units support the AFP by providing vital military intelligence, joining traditional and non-traditional military operations, securing conflict-affected communities, and acting as first responders during natural disasters.³

Soldiers, lest we forget, are the defenders of our freedoms and the protectors of our State against various lawless elements. Our CAFGUs, just like any other enlisted personnel in the AFP, willingly put their lives on the line, often in dangerous and hostile environments, to keep us safe and secure. Yet, many of these brave CAFGU members are not properly compensated for their service. In fact, each CAFGU is

¹ Sec. 2 EO No. 264.

² Sec. 26, RA 7077.

³ EO No. 69.

receiving a monthly allowance of **LESS THAN Php5,000**⁴ from the AFP and was added a monthly allowance amounting to Two Thousand Pesos (Php2,000.00) when it was approved by the former President, Rodrigo Roa Duterte⁵. However, with the rising inflation, still, these are not enough to sustain their needs and those of their respective families.

It is a sad fact that many of our CAFGUS are paid very low wages, they work in unsafe and stressful conditions, and face significant risks to their health and well-being just to protect our beloved country. Despite this, they receive little recognition or compensation for their efforts.

This is a grave injustice, a human rights violation, and it is one that we cannot afford to ignore. We must do more to support our CAFGUs who are soldiers as well. We must ensure that they are compensated fairly for their service and that they are given the respect and dignity that they deserve.

The holy Writ –the Bible reminds us in Galatians 6: 10 KJV “ *As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men...*”

Hence, as a government, we have a constitutional obligation to look after our soldiers, to provide them with the resources and support that they need to do their job effectively, and to ensure that they can lead happy and fulfilling lives for their families.

In light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this Bill is earnestly pleaded.



BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.

⁴ SunStar Feb. 27, 2023.

⁵ Executive Order (EO) 94 signed by the PRRD on November 8, 2019

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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 **“CAFGU’s Salary and Allowance Upgrading Act of 2025.”**

SEC. 2 Statement of Policies. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to develop a citizen armed force capable of supporting the Armed Forces of the Philippines, securing the sovereignty of the State, and the integrity of the national territory. Towards this end, it shall provide training and other necessary resources, including emoluments, to members of this armed force.

SEC. 3 Coverage. - This Act shall cover all CAFGU Active Auxiliaries (CAA), which are organized under the direct supervision of the AFP.

SEC. 4 Salaries of CAFGU Active Auxiliaries (CAA) - The CAA shall receive not less than the prescribed minimum wage in the region per month.

SEC 5. Allowances. In addition to Section 4 of this Act, CAAs shall receive the following allowances:

- A) Combat Duty Allowance. - A combat Duty Allowance is hereby granted to CAAs as created and defined under Section 4 of Executive Order No. 264 Series of 1987, who are performing combat duties or

activities which shall be defined in regulations to be issued by the Secretary of National Defense. The monthly Combat Duty Allowance for CAFGU members is set at Three Thousand Pesos (Php3,000.00).

- B) Combat Incentives Allowance - CAAs who participate directly in the battle against members of different insurgent groups, terrorist organizations, and lawless elements are eligible for an additional Combat Incentive allowance of Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00) each day, provided that they meet the following requirements:
1. The operation must be for a specific combat mission that is duly covered by an Operations Order (OPORD) or Fragmentary Order (FRAG-O) from the AFP, and
 2. The member involved in combat must be in the task organization of the AFP OPORD/FRAG-O.
- C) Clothing Allowance - CAAs shall receive a monthly clothing allowance of Two Hundred Pesos (Php200.00).⁶
- D) Hospital Subsistence Allowance - CAA who was hospitalized shall receive Hospital Subsistence Allowance amounting to Thirty Pesos (Php30.00) per day during their stay in the hospital.⁷
- E) Subsistence Allowance - CAAs shall receive a monthly Subsistence Allowance of Four Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Pesos (Php4,650.00) intended to cover the cost of meals and other essential expenses while they are on official duty, such as during field or combat operations, training, and other assignments away from their permanent duty station.⁸

SEC. 6 *Adjustment in the Allowances* - Upon the effectivity of this Act, any adjustment made on the incentives and allowances of members of the AFP shall also apply to the incentives and allowances of CAAs.

SEC. 7 *Appropriation* - The amount necessary for immediate implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be included in the specific budget of the AFP in the General Appropriation Act for the year following the approval of this Act, provided

⁶ Same clothing allowance received by a Private Enlisted Personnel in the Armed Forces of the Philippines effective January 1, 2018.

⁷ Id.

⁸ Id.

that the actual roster of CAAs of the AFP is submitted to the Department of Budget and Management. The validated list shall be the basis for allocating funds for the purpose in the succeeding years.

SEC. 8 *Separability Clause.* - Should any provision of this Act or part hereof be declared unconstitutional, the other provisions or parts not affected thereby shall remain valid and effective.

SEC. 9 *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10 *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,