

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3468



Introduced by Representative Jan Rurik D. Padiernos, GP (Galing sa Puso) Party-List

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution emphasizes the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness, and adopt a comprehensive approach to health development to make essential services available at affordable costs. Affordable access to health can only be provided in all remote areas through the help and assistance of the immediate personnel available.

There are over 200,000 active Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) in the Philippines. They are serving as crucial community healthcare providers and are considered as the backbone of community health care. Although Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of the Philippines, mandates that there be at least one (1) BHW for every 20 households in each barangay, the same became impossible due to lack of financial support, formal training and consistent incentives.

This bill seeks to transfer the supervision and control from the local government units (LGUs) to the Department of Health (DOH), the government agency that is in charge of the overall health care system of the country. This measure seeks to include the BHWs in the Human Resource for Health Deployment Program (HRDP) to bolster the sustainable workforce at the barangay level. The DOH is the proper agency that can provide training, continuing learning, compensation, and benefits for the BHWs.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bills is earnestly sought for.


ATTY. JAN RURIK D. PADIERNOS
GP (Galing sa Puso) Party-List

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AN ACT
INCORPORATING THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS (BHWs) IN THE
HUMAN RESOURCE FOR HEALTH DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM (HRDP) OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH)

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

SECTION 1. *Incorporation of the Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) in the Human Resource for Health Deployment Program (HRDP) of the Department of Health (DOH).* – All registered BHWs shall be incorporated in the HRDP of the DOH. As part of the HRDP, registered BHWs shall now form part of the human personnel of the DOH that shall have direct supervision and control of them.

The qualifications for the BHWs shall be determined by the DOH and as such, they shall be entitled to the compensation and benefits set for the human personnel of the DOH.

SEC. 2. *Department of Budget and Management (DBM) support.* – The DBM shall, after consultation with the local government units (LGUs), yearly determine additional personnel of the BHW nationwide. The DOH and the DBM shall see to it that no barangays shall be left without BHW personnel.

SEC. 3. The DOH and the DBM shall, within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of the DOH General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 5. If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid, all the other provisions not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, orders, resolutions, instructions and rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,