

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5049**



Introduced by Representative ZALDY “JECOY” S. VILLA

AN ACT
TRANSFERRING THE NATIONAL FIRE TRAINING INSTITUTE (NFTI) FROM
THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SAFETY COLLEGE (PPSC) TO BUREAU OF FIRE
PROTECTION (BFP), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 66, 67 AND
68 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

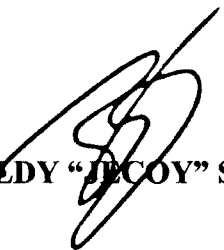
This bill seeks to transfer the National Fire Training Institute (NFTI) under the direct supervision of the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) in complete accordance with the BFP Modernization Program under Republic Act No. 11589, which is based on the State's policy to guarantee a highly professional, well-trained, and competent fire service.

The BFP Modernization Act and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) legally require and enable the BFP to completely transform its human resources and training. It mandates the creation of state-of-the-art training schools and facilities across the country. It also empowers the BFP to provide extensive training, including mandatory courses for all new staff and officers, to its personnel, fire volunteers, and fire safety professionals. This comprehensive training must cover all key operational areas: fire prevention and suppression, investigation, disaster preparedness and rescue, emergency medical response, and hazardous materials management. Finally, the Act allows BFP to hire international consultants for specialized expertise and requires them to coordinate with the Department of Health (DOH) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) for specific training, especially in emergency medical services.

Placing the NFTI under the BFP's direct control is a strategic decision designed to boost government efficiency and optimized resources. This transfer ensures that training programs are immediately relevant to the specific operational demands of the fire service. By having direct authority over the NFTI, the BFP gains the ability to quickly develop curricula, set clear training standards, and close competency gaps among personnel, all while aligning with international best practices and the constantly changing needs of the public they serve.

Transferring the NFTI from the Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC) to the BFP is essential because the PPSC's priorities don't align perfectly with the BFP needs, leading to performance issues. By giving the BFP full control over the NFTI, the agency can independently create and implement training plans, policies, and standards specifically for fire safety, emergency response, and disaster management. This change also supports the NFTI's academic freedom, allowing it to set its own curriculum, teaching methods, and admission standards. This independence is key to delivering globally competitive training for all BFP personnel.

The passing of this bill is crucial to fully integrate and strengthen the BFP's training system. This action will ensure the agency is properly equipped to handle modern challenges in fire protection, disaster, and emergency response. The ultimate outcome is a holistic, inclusive, and sustainable approach to fire services training, which will significantly benefit the Filipino people and enhance community safety by the year 2040



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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* -This Act shall be known as the “BFP National Fire Training Institute Act”.

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the existence of a highly professional, well-trained, competent fire service force, capable of enforcing fire safety standards, effectively preventing and suppressing fires, investigating their causes, and responding promptly to all hazards and emergencies. To achieve this, the State shall strengthen and modernize the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) by taking under its direct control the management, administration, and continuous development of its primary training institution. This approach shall guarantee the sustained enhancement of the BFP’s human resource capabilities, the adoption of modern and internationally recognized fire safety practices, and the effective delivery of fire protection and emergency response services nationwide, in accordance with evolving community. Needs and global standards.

SECTION 3. *Section 66 of Republic Act No. 6975, as amended by Section 3 of RA No. 11279, is hereby further amended to read as follows:*

“SEC. 66. *Creation of the Philippine Public Safety College.* – There is hereby created the Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC), which shall be the premier educational institute for the training, human resources development, and continuing education of all personnel of the Bureau of Jail Management (BJMP). The PPSC shall consist of the National Jail Management and Penology. Training Institute, and other specialized institute as may be created by law.

The National Fire Training Institute (NFTI), currently operating under the Philippine Safety College, is hereby transferred from the supervision and control of the PPSC to the direct management and administration of the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP). The NFTI shall serve as the principal training arm of the BFP, primarily responsible for the control of mandatory training, specialize courses, and continuing education programs for all non-commissioned personnel of the Bureau.”

SECTION 4. *Section 67 of RA 6975, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:*

“SEC. 67. *Composition, Powers and Functions.* – The College shall consist of the National Police College, the National Forensic Science Training Institute, and National Jail Management and Penology Institute, and other special training centers as may be created by the Department, whose functions shall be as follows:

- (a) Formulate and implement training programs for all personnel of the Jail Bureau and other training centers under the Department;
- (b) Formulate and implement select mandatory career courses for jail commissioned officers;
- (c) Formulate and implement specialized courses for personnel of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology;
- (d) Establish and maintain adequate physical training facilities;
- (e) Develop and implement research and development to support educational training programs;
- (f) Conduct an assessment of the training needs of all its clientele; and
- (g) Perform such other related functions as may be prescribed by the Secretary.”

SECTION 5. *A new Section 67-A is hereby inserted in the same Act, to read as follows:*

“SEC. 67-A, *National Fire Training Institute (NFTI).* – The NFTI shall be the premier institute for fire service education, and the primary responsible for all mandatory training, specialized courses, and continuing education and development of all fire non-commissioned officers. The NFTI shall be under the direct administrative and operational supervision and control of the Chief of the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP).

The NFTI shall be headed by a Director with the rank of Fire Chief Superintendent, who shall be assisted by a Deputy Director with the rank of Fire Senior Superintendent. The NFTI shall have a Dean of Academics and a Commandant, both with the rank of Fire Senior Superintendent.”

SECTION 6. *Function of the National Fire Training Institute under BFP.* – The National Fire Institute (NFTI) shall have the following functions:

- (a) Develop, implement and evaluate comprehensive training programs for all

- BFP personnel; (DO)
- (b) Formulate and conduct mandatory (DO) and specialized courses for the BFP personnel (DO);
 - (c) Formulate and implement training designs for volunteers, industrial workers, public safety sectors; (D)
 - (d) Conduct research and development on fire service training methodologies, technologies, and curriculum enhancements;
 - (e) Establish and maintain training facilities, equipment, and resources;
 - (f) Forge partnerships and collaborations with local and international fire service, organizations, academic institutions, and other relevant agencies;
 - (g) Recommend policies and standards for BFP personnel training and development to the Chief, BFP;
 - (h) Conduct assessment of training needs; (DO)
 - (i) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to fulfill its mandate as the primary training institution of the BFP.

SECTION 7. *New Section 68-A is hereby inserted to read as follows:*

“SEC. 68-A. *Transfer of Personnel and Propertie.* – All BFP uniformed and non-uniformed personnel and all the properties, facilities, records, equipment, funds, choses in action, appropriations, rights, functions, liabilities, and other assets of the National Fire Training Institute (NFTI) are hereby transferred to the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP).”

SECTION 8. *A new Section 68-B is hereby inserted to read as follows:*

“SEC. 68-B. *Transition.* – (a) Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Chief of the BFP shall submit the revised table of organization and equipment and staffing pattern of the NFTI to the DILG, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and the Civil Service Commission (CSC) for approval. The revised table of organization and equipment and staffing pattern may include the reorganization and renaming of existing BFP training offices and units, and the realignment of functions and may be necessary;

(b) The uniformed and non-uniformed personnel of the NFTI shall be transferred from the PPSC to the BFP and continue to perform their duties and responsibilities and receive their corresponding salaries and benefits;

(c) The BFP, PPSC, and NFTI shall jointly conduct an inventory of all the properties, facilities, records, equipment, funds, choses in action, appropriations, rights, functions, liabilities, and other assets of the NFTI prior to their complete transfer to the BFP;

(d) The Secretary of the DILG, the Chief, BFP, and the President of the PPSC shall formulate and implement a five (5) year transition plan to ensure the smooth transfer of the NFTI to the BFP.”

SECTION 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the HFTI, in accordance with the Bureau of Rife Protection, Philippine Public Safety College, and Department of the Interior and Local Government, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 10. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current's year appropriations of the National Fire Training Institute under the Philippine Safety College. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.* – The declaration of invalidity of any provision of this Act or part thereof shall not affect the validity of the reaming provisions.

SECTION 12. *Repealing Clause.* – All law, decree, ordinance, or administrative circular not consistent with any provision of this Act is hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 13. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.