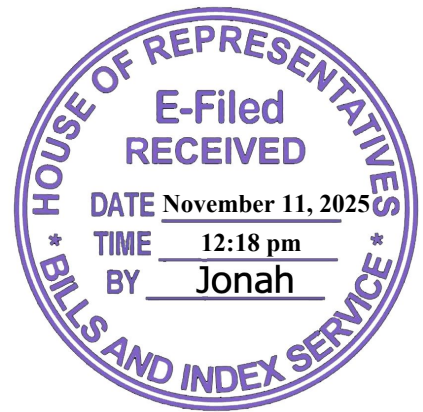


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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



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HOUSE BILL NO. 5819

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Introduced by Hon. Julienne "Jam" L. Baronda

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

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Anchored on the State's policy to ensure a highly professional, well-trained, and competent fire service, this bill seeks to transfer the National Fire Training Institute (NFTI) under the direct control and supervision of the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), in full alignment with the BFP Modernization Program under Republic Act No. 11589.

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The BFP Modernization Act and its IRR expressly mandates the development of a comprehensive human resource and training program for BFP personnel and volunteers, including the establishment of state-of-the-art training schools and facilities nationwide. This law empowers the BFP to conduct training for its personnel, officers, fire volunteers, and fire safety practitioners in all aspects of fire prevention, suppression, investigation, disaster preparedness, rescue, emergency medical response, and hazardous materials management, and further requires the BFP to develop and implement a comprehensive training program, including mandatory courses for new entrants and newly appointed personnel, and to establish modern training facilities. It authorizes the BFP to hire internationally accredited training consultants and advisers when necessary, and to coordinate with agencies such as the Department of Health (DOH) and TESDA for specialized training needs, particularly for emergency medical services.

Transferring the NFTI to the BFP is a strategic move to optimize government resources, improve efficiency, and ensure that training is responsive to the unique operational requirements of the fire service. With direct control over NFTI, the BFP can swiftly develop and implement curricula, set training standards, and address competency gaps in line with international best practices and the evolving needs of communities.

43 Currently, the NFTI's placement under the Philippine Public Safety College
44 (PPSC) has resulted in performance gaps due to differing institutional priorities. By
45 vesting the BFP with full responsibility for its own training, the agency can
46 independently formulate and execute plans, policies, and standards for advanced
47 and specialized education in fire safety, emergency response, and disaster
48 management. This move also upholds the academic freedom of the NFTI, allowing
49 it to determine its own teaching methods, curriculum, and admission standards,
50 thereby ensuring globally competitive training for BFP personnel.

51
52 The immediate passage of this bill will fully integrate and strengthen the
53 BFP's training services, ensuring that the agency is equipped to meet modern
54 challenges in fire protection, disaster, and emergency response. This will result in a
55 holistic, inclusive, and sustainable approach to fire service training and
56 development, ultimately benefiting the Filipino people and enhancing community
57 safety by 2040.

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63 **HON. JULIENNE "JAM" L. BARONDA**
64 Representative
65 Lone District, Iloilo City
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HOUSE BILL NO. 5819

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Introduced by Hon. Julienne "Jam" L. Baronda

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**AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE NATIONAL FIRE TRAINING
INSTITUTE (NFTI) FROM THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SAFETY
COLLEGE (PPSC) TO THE 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**

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

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

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SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the existence of a highly professional, well-trained, and 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.

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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:*

124 "SEC. 66. *Creation of the Philippine Public Safety College.* There is hereby created
125 the Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC), which shall be the premier
126 educational institution for the training, human resource development, and
127 continuing education of all personnel of the Bureau of Jail Management and
128 Penology (BJMP). The PPSC shall consist of the National Jail Management and
129 Penology Training Institute, and other specialized institutes as may be created by
130 law.

131
132 The National Fire Training Institute (NFTI), currently operating under the
133 Philippine Public Safety College, is hereby transferred from the supervision and
134 control of the PPSC to the direct management and administration of the Bureau of
135 Fire Protection (BFP). The NFTI shall serve as the principal training arm of the
136 BFP, primarily responsible for the conduct of mandatory training, specialized
137 courses, and continuing education programs for all non-commissioned personnel of
138 the Bureau."

139
140 SECTION 4. *Section 67 of RA 6975*, as amended, is hereby further amended to
141 read as follows:

142
143 "SEC. 67. *Composition, Powers and Functions.* The College shall consist of the
144 National Police College, the National Forensic Science Training Institute, the
145 National Jail Management and Penology Training Institute, and other special
146 training centers as may be created by the Department, whose functions shall be as
147 follows:

- 148
149 (a) Formulate and implement training programs for all personnel of the Jail
150 Bureau and other training centers under the Department;
151 (b) Formulate and implement select mandatory career courses for jail
152 commissioned officers;
153 (c) Formulate and implement specialized courses for personnel of the Bureau of
154 Jail Management and Penology,
155 (d) Establish and maintain adequate physical training facilities;
156 (e) Develop and implement research and development to support educational
157 training programs;
158 (f) Conduct an assessment of the training needs of all its clientele; and
159 (g) Perform such other related functions as may be prescribed by the Secretary."

160
161 SECTION 5. *A new Section 67-A is hereby inserted in the same Act, to read as*
162 *follows:*

163
164 "SEC. 67-A. *National Fire Training Institute (NFTI).* The NFTI shall be the
165 premier institution for fire service education, and the primary responsible for all
166 mandatory training, specialized courses, and continuing education and

167 development of all fire non-commissioned officers. The NFTI shall be under the
168 direct administrative and operational supervision and control of the Chief of the
169 Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP).
170

171 The NFTI shall be headed by a Director with the rank of Fire Chief Superintendent,
172 who shall be assisted by a Deputy Director with the rank of Fire Senior
173 Superintendent. The NFTI shall have a Dean of Academics and a Commandant,
174 both with the rank of Fire Senior Superintendent."
175

176 **SECTION 6. Function of the National Fire Training Institute under BFP.** -The
177 National Fire Training Institute (NFTI) shall have the following functions:
178

- 179 (a) Develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive training programs for all BFP
180 personnel; (DO)
- 181 (b) Formulate and conduct mandatory (DO) and specialized courses for the BFP
182 personnel (DO);
- 183 (c) Formulate and implement training designs for volunteers, industrial workers,
184 public safety sectors; (DO)
- 185 (d) Conduct research and development on fire service training methodologies,
186 technologies, and curriculum enhancements;
- 187 (e) Establish and maintain training facilities, equipment, and resources;
- 188 (f) Forge partnerships and collaborations with local and international fire service,
189 organizations, academic institutions, and other relevant agencies.
- 190 (g) Recommend policies and standards for BFP personnel training and
191 development to the Chief, BFP.
- 192 (h) Conduct assessment of training needs; (DO)
- 193 (i) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to fulfill its mandate as the
194 primary training institution of the BFP.

195
196 *SECTION 7. A new Section 68-A is hereby inserted to read as follows:*
197

198 “SEC. 68-A. *Transfer of Personnel and Properties.* All BFP uniformed and non-
199 uniformed personnel and all the properties, facilities, records, equipment, funds,
200 choses in action, appropriations, rights, functions, liabilities, and other assets of the
201 National Fire Training Institute (NFTI) are hereby transferred to the Bureau of Fire
202 Protection (BFP).”
203

204 *SECTION 8. A new Section 68-B is hereby inserted to read as follows:*
205

206 “SEC. 68-B. *Transition.* (a) Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the
207 effectivity of this Act, the Chief of the BFP shall submit the revised table of
208 organization and equipment and staffing pattern of the NFTI to the DILG, the
209 Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and the Civil Service

210 Commission (CSC) for approval. The revised table of organization and equipment
211 and staffing pattern may include the reorganization and renaming of existing BFP
212 training offices and units, and the realignment of functions as may be necessary;
213

214 (b) The uniformed and non-uniformed personnel of the NFTI shall be transferred
215 from the PPSC to the BFP and continue to perform their duties and responsibilities
216 and receive their corresponding salaries and benefits;
217

218 (c) The BFP, PPSC, and NFTI shall jointly conduct an inventory of all the
219 properties, facilities, records, equipment, funds, choses in action, appropriations,
220 rights, functions, liabilities, and other assets of the NFTI prior to their complete
221 transfer to the BFP;
222

223 (d) The Secretary of the DILG, the Chief, BFP, and the President of the PPSC shall
224 formulate and implement a five (5) year transition plan to ensure the smooth
225 transfer of the NFTI to the BFP.”
226

227 **SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** Within ninety (90) days
228 from the effectivity of this Act, the NFTI, in coordination with the Bureau of Fire
229 Protection, Philippine Public Safety College, and Department of the Interior and
230 Local Government, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to
231 implement the provisions of this Act.
232

233 **SECTION 10. Appropriations.** The amount necessary for the initial
234 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year’s
235 appropriations of the National Fire Training Institute under the Philippine Public
236 Safety College. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for its continued
237 implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
238

239 **SECTION 11. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Act is declared
240 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in
241 full force and effect.
242

243 **SECTION 12. Repealing Clause.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
244 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
245 repealed or modified accordingly.
246

247 **SECTION 13. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
248 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
249

250 Approved,