

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
20TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 6366

Introduced by: **REP. JOEL R. CHUA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) is mandated to ensure public safety by enforcing fire safety standards, preventing and suppressing fires, investigating their causes, and responding to all hazards and emergencies nationwide. To perform these functions effectively, the BFP must maintain a corps of highly competent, well-trained, and professional fire service personnel equipped with modern skills and knowledge aligned with international standards.

At present, the National Fire Training Institute (NFTI) operates under the Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC). While this structure has supported the training of fire service personnel over the years, there is a growing need to modernize and strengthen fire protection training by placing the NFTI directly under the management and administration of the Bureau of Fire Protection. This approach ensures that training policies, curriculum development, and capability enhancement programs are more responsive to the operational realities, evolving challenges, and organizational needs of the BFP.

This Bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 6975, as amended, by transferring the National Fire Training Institute from the PPSC to the direct supervision and control of the BFP. This transfer will allow the BFP to oversee the continuous development of its human resource capabilities and accelerate the adoption of modern and globally recognized firefighting and emergency response practices.

Under the proposed measure, the NFTI shall serve as the premier institution for fire service education, mandated to develop, implement, and evaluate mandatory and specialized training programs; establish and maintain training facilities; conduct research and curriculum development; collaborate with national and international institutions; and recommend training-related policies to the BFP leadership. The Bill also provides for the transfer of personnel, assets, funds, and facilities, and outlines a structured transition plan to ensure seamless implementation.

With the increasing complexity of fire hazards, urban development, industrialization, and the demand for swift and capable emergency response, strengthening the training infrastructure of the BFP is both timely and necessary. This Bill contributes to the long-term modernization of the country's fire service and promotes safer communities through a well-prepared and professionally trained firefighting force.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this legislative measure is earnestly sought

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JOEL R. CHUA', with a stylized flourish at the end.

JOEL R. CHUA

Representative, 3rd District, Manila

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Introduced by: **REP. JOEL R. CHUA**

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

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 "*BFP National Fire Training Institute Act.*"

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy* - It is the policy of the State to maintain a professional, well-trained, and competent fire service capable of enforcing fire safety standards and effectively responding to all emergencies. To achieve this, the Bureau of Fire Protection shall directly manage and develop its primary training institution to ensure continuous improvement of personnel, adoption of modern and globally recognized practices, and the effective delivery of fire protection services nationwide.

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 institution for the training, human resource development, and continuing education of all personnel of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP). The PPSC shall consist of the National Jail Management and Penology Training Institute, and other specialized institutes as may be created by law.

The National Fire Training Institute (NFTI), currently operating under the Philippine Public 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 conduct of mandatory training, specialized 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, the National Jail Management and Penology Training 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 institution 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 Training 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; (DO)
- 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) and
- i.) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to fulfill its mandate as the primary training institution of the BFP.

Section 7. A new Section 68-A is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 68-A. Transfer of Personnel and Properties. - 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 as 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 NFTI, in coordination with the Bureau of Fire 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 year's appropriations of the National Fire Training Institute under the Philippine Public 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* - If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 12. *Repealing Clause* - All laws, executive orders, and administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 13. *Effectivity Clause* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the online version of the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or with an established internet website presence.

Approved,