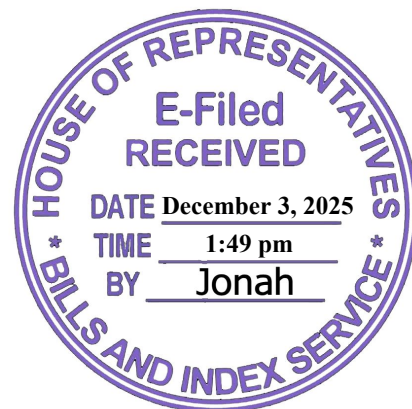




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6581**



Introduced by:

HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill proposes to extend death, disability, and accident insurance coverage to barangay tanods, barangay health workers, barangay day-care workers, and members of the Lupong Tagapamayapa — groups currently not covered under the insurance regime for local officials under Republic Act 6942 — and to raise the benefit levels for all covered barangay officials.

Under the existing law (RA 6942), insurance coverage is provided to punong barangays, members of sangguniang barangay, certain local and SK officials, and a few other local-government functionaries with specific benefit packages. However, many grassroots service providers — such as barangay tanods (community watchmen), health workers, day-care workers, and Lupong Tagapamayapa members — remain excluded despite performing critical frontline and community-service duties. As a result, these volunteer or minimally compensated workers lack protection in case of work-related accidents, disabilities, or death, placing an undue burden on their families and often discouraging continued service.

This gap undermines both social justice and the effective delivery of basic services at the barangay level. Barangays, being the primary planning and implementing unit of government and the first point of contact for ordinary citizens, rely heavily on these personnel. Their exposure to hazards — especially in contexts of peace & order operations (tanods), health emergencies, or community-level social work — makes insurance coverage a necessity and a matter of humane and responsible governance.

The bill seeks to rectify this institutional oversight by amending RA 6942 to: include barangay tanods, barangay health workers, barangay day-care workers, and members of Lupong Tagapamayapa under the law's coverage; raise the insurance benefits (death, disability, accident, burial) to amounts commensurate with risk and workload; and assure funding for premiums — with national government covering premiums for elected officials, while barangay-level funds support premiums for appointed/volunteer workers.

This measure will protect grassroots workers, uphold the dignity of service, ensure social protection for community-level frontliners, and strengthen barangay capacity. For these reasons, immediate approval of HB 2743 is earnestly sought.

In view of the foregoing, **ug sa ngalan sa SERBISYONG TINUORAY**, the undersigned respectfully requests the immediate passage of this measure.



CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP

Representative, Second District of Southern Leyte



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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. **6581**

Introduced by:

HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP

AN ACT
PROVIDING DEATH, DISABILITY, AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE
COVERAGE TO BARANGAY TANODS, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS,
BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG
TAGAPAMAYAPA, AND INCREASING THE INSURANCE BENEFITS OF
SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY MEMBERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6942 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 6942 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 1. Coverage of the Act. – Every punong barangay, sangguniang barangay member, [chairman of the Kabataang barangay] SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN (SK) CHAIRMAN, barangay secretary [and], barangay treasurer, BARANGAY TANOD, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKER, AND MEMBER OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA, and every member of the Sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod, and sangguniang bayan, duly elected or appointed, and duly qualified, who does not receive a fixed salary during his incumbency, shall be automatically covered by this Act: Provided, that the moment said official receives a fixed salary whether in the same capacity or by virtue of a permanent appointment in any other government office or by election to another public office, his coverage

under this Act shall automatically cease and shall then be covered under the appropriate law. Any of the abovementioned local officials who shall automatically lose coverage or cease to be covered by this Act by virtue of termination or resignation from office for any lawful cause shall have the option to continue the coverage by paying the required premiums thereon.”

Section 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 6942 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 2. Death and Burial Benefits. – In the event of death of an insured official during this incumbency, the beneficiaries of a punong barangay or a member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod [or], sangguniang bayan, SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY, OR THE SK CHAIRMAN shall be entitled to Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) while the beneficiaries of a [member of sangguniang barangay,] barangay secretary, barangay treasurer [or chairman of the Kabataang barangay], BARANGAY TANOD, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKER, OR MEMBER OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA shall be entitled to Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00). In addition to the death benefits herein provided, a burial benefit of Two thousand pesos (P2,000.00) shall be paid to the beneficiaries within twenty-four (24) hours after written notice and satisfactory proof of death.

Should a [barangay chairman] PUNONG BARANGAY, OR BARANGAY TANOD be assassinated or killed while in the performance of his duties or on the occasion thereof, his beneficiaries shall be entitled to double the amounts of indemnity provided above.”

Section 3. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 6942 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 3. Total and Permanent Incapacity or Disability. – In the event of total and permanent incapacity or disability as determined by the Government Service Insurance System, hereinafter referred to as the System, a punong barangay or a member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod [or], sangguniang bayan, SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY, OR THE SK CHAIRMAN shall be entitled to Twelve thousand pesos (P12,000.00) while a [member of the sangguniang barangay,] barangay secretary, barangay treasurer [or chairman of the Kabataang barangay] BARANGAY TANOD, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKER, OR MEMBER OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA shall be entitled to Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00): Provided, that the disability occurred during his incumbency whether work-connected or not. In addition to the disability benefits herein provided, a burial benefit of Two thousand pesos (P2,000.00) shall be paid to

his beneficiaries in the event that death occurs within two (2) years from the onset of total and permanent incapacity or disability.

Anyone availing of the benefits under this section cannot benefit from Sections Two, Four, and Five hereof.”

Section 4. Paragraph 1, Section 4 of Republic Act No. 6942 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 4. Injuries Resulting from Accidents. – For injuries resulting from an accident occurring during his incumbency, whether work-connected or not, a punong barangay or a member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod, [or] sangguniang bayan, SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY, OR THE SK CHAIRMAN shall be entitled to the following benefits which in no case shall exceed the maximum benefit of Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) per covered year;”

Section 5. Paragraph 1, Section 5 of Republic Act No. 6942 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 5. Injuries Resulting from Accident of other Barangay Officials. – For injuries resulting from an accident occurring during his incumbency, whether work-connected or not, a member of the sangguniang barangay, barangay secretary, barangay treasurer [or chairman of the kabataang barangay], BARANGAY TANOD, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKER, OR MEMBER OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA Shall be entitled to the following benefits which in no case shall exceed the maximum benefit of Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) per covered year:”

Section 6. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 6942 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 6. Responsibility for Payment of Premiums. – For all the insurance benefits provided in the preceding sections, the national government of the Republic of the Philippines shall appropriate annually and include in the General Appropriations Act the total annual premiums based on the TOTAL actual number of [local officials covered under Section One hereof and] PUNONG BARANGAYS, MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG PALALAWIGAN, PANLUNGSOD, BAYAN OR BARANGAY, AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRMEN; WHILE EACH BARANGAY CONCERNED SHALL APPROPRIATE ANNUALLY AND INCLUDE IN THEIR BUDGET THE TOTAL ANNUAL PREMIUMS BASED ON THE TOTAL ACTUAL NUMBER OF BARANGAY TANODS, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS, AND

MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA as certified by the Department of Local Government. The annual premiums, unless later on adjusted in accordance with the provisions of this section, shall be Two hundred forty-seven pesos (P247.00) for every punong barangay and member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod, [or] sangguniang bayan, SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY, AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRMAN and Sixty- two pesos (P62.00) for every [member of the sangguniang barangay,] barangay secretary, barangay treasurer [and chairman of the kabataang barangay], BARANGAY TANOD, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER, BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA. The entire appropriation for the payments of the foregoing total annual premiums shall be released to the Government Service Insurance System during the first month of every calendar year. The System shall conduct periodic actuarial studies to determine the adequacy of the contribution as provided herein. Based on such studies, the premiums may be adjusted and the total annual premiums based on the adjusted premium rates as certified by the System shall likewise be provided for in the General Appropriations Act AND THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE BARANGAYS CONCERNED for every applicable year thereafter.”

Section 7. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act shall be declared as unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,