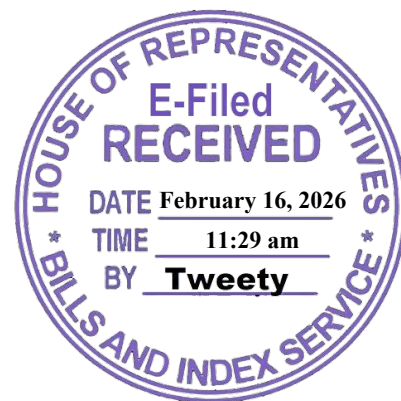


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7822



Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The professionalization and modernization of the country's fire service is a continuing imperative, especially in the face of evolving hazards, urbanization, and the increasing complexity of fire safety and emergency response. The Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), as the primary agency mandated to prevent and suppress destructive fires, investigate their causes, and enforce fire safety standards, must be equipped not only with modern equipment but also with a highly trained and competent workforce.

At present, the National Fire Training Institute (NFTI) operates under the Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC), which also oversees the training of personnel for other public safety bureaus. While this arrangement has contributed to the foundational training of BFP personnel, the growing demands on the fire service and the need for specialized, up-to-date, and responsive training programs call for a more focused and direct approach.

This bill seeks to transfer the NFTI from the PPSC to the direct supervision and control of the BFP. By doing so, the BFP will be empowered to design, implement, and continuously improve training programs that are specifically tailored to the operational realities and strategic objectives of the fire service. Transferring the NFTI to the BFP will allow for better coordination of training policies, quicker adaptation to operational realities, and more effective use of resources. It will empower the BFP to directly develop and implement continuing education initiatives tailored to the evolving landscape of fire prevention, suppression, investigation, and emergency response.

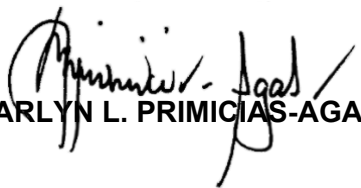
This structural reform is intended to ensure that the NFTI becomes a dynamic center for excellence in fire service education, capable of adopting international best practices, integrating new technologies, and responding swiftly to the training needs of BFP personnel and stakeholders.

Notably, *Section 68-A of Republic Act No. 11279* mandates the transfer of personnel, properties, and assets of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) and the National Police Training Institute (NPTI) from the PPSC to the Philippine National Police (PNP). The same principle applies to the transfer of

the NFTI to the BFP, which will allow for the rationalization of resources, the alignment of training objectives with agency mandates, and the institutionalization of a culture of excellence within the fire service.

In sum, this legislative proposal aims to strengthen the BFP's capacity to fulfill its vital role in protecting lives and property, by investing in the continuous development of its human resources and by institutionalizing a training system that is responsive, modern, and attuned to the highest standards of public safety.

Immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7822

Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

AN ACT

**STRENGTHENING THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION BY TRANSFERRING
THE NATIONAL FIRE TRAINING INSTITUTE FROM THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC
SAFETY COLLEGE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 66, 67, AND 68
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, 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 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.

**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:

Develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive training programs for all BFP personnel; (DO)

- a) Formulate and conduct mandatory (DO) and specialized courses for the BFP personnel (DO);
- b) Formulate and implement training designs for volunteers, industrial workers, public safety sectors; (DO)

- c) Conduct research and development on fire service training methodologies, technologies, and curriculum enhancements;
- d) Establish and maintain training facilities, equipment, and resources;
- e) Forge partnerships and collaborations with local and international fire service, organizations, academic institutions, and other relevant agencies.
- f) Recommend policies and standards for BFP personnel training and development to the Chief, BFP.
- g) Conduct assessment of training needs; (DO)
- h) 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 Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

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

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

Approved,