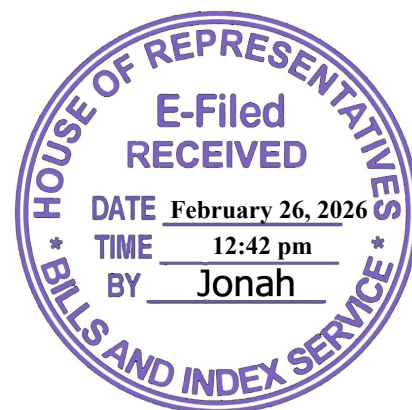




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **8105**



Introduced by:

HON. CHRISTOPHERSON “COCO” M. YAP

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR SEPARATION GRATUITY TO BARANGAY TANODS, BARANGAY
HEALTH WORKERS, BARANGAY NUTRITION SCHOLARS, BARANGAY DAY CARE
WORKERS, MEMBERS OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA AND OTHER
BARANGAY VOLUNTEERS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Barangay volunteers play a vital role in the delivery of essential government services at the grassroots level. Barangay Tanods, Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Nutrition Scholars, Barangay Day Care Workers, members of the Lupong Tagapamayapa, and other community volunteers serve as frontliners in maintaining peace and order, promoting public health, implementing social services, and assisting government programs in their respective communities. Their presence is especially indispensable in rural and geographically isolated areas where access to government institutions and personnel remains limited.

Despite the indispensable functions they perform, barangay volunteers receive only minimal incentives pursuant to Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the “Local Government Code of 1991.” Unlike regular government personnel, they are not entitled to separation or retirement benefits despite years of dedicated public service and exposure to risks comparable to those faced by elected and appointed officials.

This bill seeks to recognize and reward the invaluable contributions of barangay volunteers by providing a separation gratuity upon their retirement, disability, death in service, or other forms of separation not arising from administrative fault. The proposed measure aims to institutionalize a system of recognition that promotes dignity, security, and appreciation for volunteer service while encouraging continued civic participation at the barangay level.

By granting separation benefits, the State affirms its commitment to strengthening grassroots governance and supporting individuals who selflessly devote their time and effort to community service and nation-building.

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

Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Volunteers Separation Act."

Section 2. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act, the term:

- (a) **“Barangay Volunteer Worker”** shall refer to a Barangay Tanod, Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Nutrition Scholars, Barangay Day Care Workers, members of the Lupong Tagapamayapa, and any other barangay worker occupying positions created through a valid barangay ordinance who are receiving honorarium twice or less than the minimum honorarium for punong barangays as provided for in Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160, or the “Local Government Code of 1991”
- (b) **“Separated from service”** shall include death while in the service, disability, retirement, voluntary separation, non-renewal of appointment, or removal or termination for a cause other than:
 - i. serious misconduct;
 - ii. willful disobedience or insubordination;

- iii. gross and habitual neglect of duties;
- iv. fraud or willful breach of trust;
- v. loss of confidence;
- vi. commission of a crime or offense;
- vii. other causes of termination as provided for in the Barangay Ordinance creating the position; and
- viii. analogous causes

Section 3. *Separation Benefit of Barangay Volunteers.* – This Act aims to:

- (a) Reduce the cost of internet services nationwide;
- (b) Expand broadband coverage in rural and underserved areas;
- (c) Improve service quality standards for consumers;
- (d) Promote innovation and competition within the telecommunications sector; and
- (e) Strengthen public access to digital services and online government platforms.

Section 4. *National Broadband Expansion Program* – Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, a Barangay Volunteer Worker who is separated from service shall receive a plaque of recognition and, upon effectivity of such separation, a lump-sum gratuity equivalent to one month's honorarium multiplied by the total years of service: Provided, That a fraction of over six (6) months shall be considered as one (1) full year: Provided, moreover, That the period of service in whatever capacity within the Barangay which entitled the volunteer to a monthly honorarium shall be added for the purpose of computing the gratuity: Provided, however, That the number of years served by a former volunteer who benefited from this Act and who re-joins as a volunteer shall no longer be considered in computing the gratuity during the next retirement or separation: Provided, finally, That Barangay volunteers who have already separated from service for more than one (1) year prior to the effectivity of this Act shall no longer be eligible to receive the gratuity.

Section 5. *Appropriations.* – The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the concerned municipality shall equally appropriate the amount necessary for the implementation of this Act, to be taken, respectively, from the allocation of the DILG from the annual General Appropriations Act and from the budget of the concerned municipality.

Cities, municipalities, and barangays that provide a monthly honorarium to their volunteers at a rate that is more than twice the minimum honorarium for a punong barangay are likewise hereby authorized to adopt a similar retirement or separation gratuity: Provided, That the gratuity per volunteer shall not exceed One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00), to be charged against the funds of the barangay and the concerned city or municipality: Provided, however, That the appropriation to implement this Act shall be excluded from the personal services limitation provided by law and other issuances.

Section 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the DILG, in consultation with the leagues of cities, municipalities, and barangay shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations.

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,