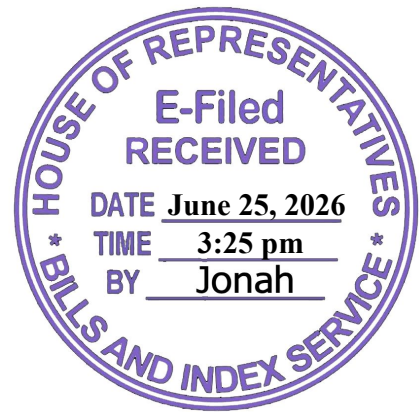


TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 9948

Introduced by Rep. CARMELO G. LAZATIN, JR.

AN ACT

MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL K-9 ADOPTION SHELTERS FOR RETIRED POLICE DOGS, PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION, VETERINARY CARE, AND POST-ADOPTION MONITORING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In June 2026, nine (9) retired Narcotic Detection Dogs (NDDs) from the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) that have served for years in the anti-illegal drug operations across the Philippines were put up for adoption. These dogs have an average age of 12 years and have retired from the service. While in the service, these dogs played key roles in anti-drug operations, including inspections in jail facilities, search-and-seizure operations, interdiction activities, and checkpoints operations in airports, seaports, and transport terminals nationwide.¹

In 2022, three (3) retired canines in Cordillera were also put up for adoption. These dogs assisted in locating a missing Korean National who was hiking in Barlig, Mountain Province in 2017. They also aided in the search and rescue /retrieval operations after a landslide in Sitio Sakrang, Barangay Banawel, Natonin, Mountain Province in 2018.²

The Philippine National Police (PNP) Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Canine Group manages hundreds of trained dogs nationwide, while PDEA operates a specialized K-9 facility for narcotics detections dogs. These service canines are reliable partners of law enforcement agencies. Upon retirement, however, many are either retained by handlers or placed for adoption without a uniform, dedicated shelter-and-adoption framework that ensures standardized veterinary care, adopter screening and post-adoption monitoring.

¹ "PDEA puts 9 retired drug detection dogs up for adoption". Available at <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1277521>

² "3 retired canine cops in Cordillera up for adoption". <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1182614>

This proposed measure seeks to honor retired police dogs by institutionalizing Regional K-9 Adoption Shelters that provide temporary housing, humane care, and a structured adoption system that prevents abuse, neglect, and exploitation, consistent with our existing laws, rules and regulations.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


CARMELO G. LAZATIN, JR.



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

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**MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL K-9 ADOPTION SHELTERS
FOR RETIRED POLICE DOGS, PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION, VETERINARY CARE,
AND POST-ADOPTION MONITORING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Regional K-9 Adoption Shelter
2 Act”.

3
4 Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect
5 and promote animal welfare, ensure humane treatment, prevent cruelty, neglect and abandonment,
6 and promote responsible pet ownership, consistent with Republic Act No. 8485 otherwise known
7 as the Animal Welfare Act of 1998, as amended by Republic Act No. 10631, and Republic Act
8 No. 9482 otherwise known as the Anti-Rabies Act of 2007.

9
10 To carry out this policy, the State shall endeavor to provide appropriate shelter and
11 adoption mechanisms for retired police canines, in recognition of their invaluable service and to
12 ensure their continued welfare after retirement.
13

1 Section 3. *Establishment of Regional K-9 Adoption Shelter.* – There shall be established at
2 least one (1) Regional K-9 Adoption Shelter in each administrative region. The Shelter shall be
3 established and operated by the host provincial government or local government unit (LGU) as
4 may be identified in the implementing rules and regulations, in coordination with the PNP and
5 PDEA, and in accordance with animal welfare standards.

6
7 The shelter shall keep records of retired canines including their adoptive owners for
8 monitoring to ensure that they are not being abused or are being used for illegal practices. All
9 shelters shall comply with the registration and regulatory requirements of the Department of
10 Agriculture (DA) through the Bureau of Animal Industry, consistent with Animal Welfare Act and
11 such other rules and regulations.

12
13 Section 4. *Turnover, Custody, and Coordination.* – The PNP and PDEA shall coordinate
14 with the host LGU / Shelter for the turnover of retired K-9s including the submission of the K9s
15 medical and vaccination records and other relevant information necessary for proper care and
16 placement.

17
18 Section 5. *Appropriations.* – To carry out the provisions of this Act, the amounts necessary
19 for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
20 Act. LGUs operating the Shelters may allocate funds from their local budgets, subject to applicable
21 budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules. The DA, PNP, and PDEA shall provide such technical
22 and program support as may be provided in the General Appropriations Act and in the
23 implementing rules and regulations.

24
25 Section 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from the
26 effectivity of this Act, the Department of Agriculture, PNP, PDEA, in coordination with relevant
27 agencies and stakeholders, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations to effectively
28 carry out the provisions of this Act.

29
30 Section 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional
31 or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

32
33 Section 8. *Repealing clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or parts
34 therefor, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
35 accordingly.

36
37 Section 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
38 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

39
40 Approved,