

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11373

Introduced by Representative **MAURICIO G. DOMOGAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine National Police (PNP) plays a vital role in maintaining peace and order, protecting lives and property, preventing and investigating crimes, and ensuring public safety. The effectiveness of the police organization depends not only on adequate resources and modern equipment, but also on having a competent, professional, and well-qualified corps of officers and personnel.

Republic Act No. 6975, otherwise known as the Department of the Interior and Local Government Act of 1990, provides for the organization and administration of the Philippine National Police. Section 33 thereof provides for the lateral entry of officers into the PNP, particularly for line and technical positions, in recognition of the need to bring into the organization individuals who possess specialized knowledge, skills, training, and professional qualifications that may not be sufficiently available through the regular recruitment and promotion system.

However, the existing qualification framework for lateral entry may unduly limit the pool of qualified applicants by recognizing only certain baccalaureate degrees or professional qualifications for particular positions. With the increasingly complex nature of law enforcement, modern policing requires expertise in a broad range of disciplines, including information technology, cybersecurity, forensic science, criminology, psychology, guidance and counselling, medicine, engineering, and other fields relevant to police operations

and administration. There is likewise a need to provide greater career mobility and professional advancement opportunities to police non-commissioned officers and non-uniformed personnel who are already in government service. Many of these personnel have acquired relevant baccalaureate degrees, professional licenses, specialized training, and substantial experience in the performance of police and police-support functions. Their institutional knowledge, practical experience, and familiarity with the operations of the PNP constitute valuable assets that should be recognized and utilized in filling appropriate vacancies.

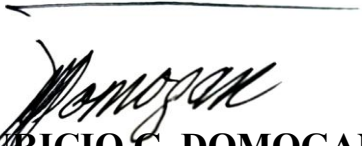
The proposed measure therefore seeks to amend Section 33 of Republic Act 6975 to broaden the qualifications for lateral entry into PNP by allowing other appropriate baccalaureate degrees. This will enable the organization to recruit and appoint individuals possessing diverse educational and professional backgrounds necessary for modern and specialized policing.

More importantly, the bill seeks to ensure that qualified police non-commissioned officers and non-uniformed personnel already in the service are given meaningful opportunities to qualify for lateral entry into appropriate line and technical officer positions. Such a policy recognizes the principle that career advancement should not be limited by one's initial mode of entry into the organization, particularly when an incumbent personnel has subsequently obtained the education, qualifications, training, and experience required for a higher position.

This measure will also promote merit, competence, professionalism, and equal opportunity within the PNP. By opening lateral entry opportunities to qualified personnel already serving the organization, the PNP can retain experienced and capable individuals while encouraging its personnel to pursue higher education, professional development, and specialized training.

The proposed legislation is therefore intended to strengthen the PNP by expanding its pool of qualified officers, maximizing the talents and experience of its existing personnel, and providing equitable opportunities for career advancement. It seeks to ensure that the qualifications for police leadership and technical positions remain responsive to the evolving demands of law enforcement and public safety.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



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**AN ACT EXPANDING THE LATERAL ENTRY PROGRAM OF THE
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SECTION 33 OF REPUBLIC ACT 6975, AS AMENDED**

*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 “Expanded
Philippine National Police Lateral Entry Act”.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to
establish a highly efficient, effective and competent police force, which is
national in scope, civilian in character, and administered and controlled by the
Philippine National Police (PNP).

SECTION 3. Objective. - This amendment of Section 33 of Republic Act
6975 intends to include other baccalaureate degrees in the lateral entry program
of the Philippine National Police (PNP) for technical and line officers to fill up
vacancies and to expand the opportunities to Police Non-Commissioned Officers
(PNCOs) and Non-Uniformed Personnel (NUP) who are already in the service
and are qualified to the position of Police Lieutenants based on their eligibility as
Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) licensed professionals and Civil
Service Commission (CSC) Career Service Professionals (CSP).

SECTION 4. Section 33 of Republic Act No. 6975 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 33. Lateral Entry of Officers into the PNP. In general, all original appointments of commissioned officers in the PNP shall commence with the rank of Police Lieutenant, to include all those with highly technical qualifications applying for the PNP technical services, such as: aeronautical engineers, computer engineers, chemical engineers, chemists, civil engineers, criminologists, dentists, electrical engineers, electronics engineers, guidance and counselling, mechanical engineers, medical technologists, metallurgical engineers, molecular biologists, naval architects, nuclear physicists, nurses, nutritionists and dieticians, optometrists, physical therapists, psychologists, psychometricians, sports medicine, social workers, veterinary medicines, graduates of forensic sciences, information technology professionals, and other technical professions.

Abovementioned professionals shall be accommodated to the PNP service to fill up vacancies in any of the PNP offices/units for technical services, provided, they possess an appropriate PRC license or CSP eligibility.

Doctors of medicine, members of the Bar, priests/pastors/imams, and licensed aircraft pilots shall be appointed to the rank of Police Captain in their particular technical service.

The Police Commissioned Officers who are recruited via the Lateral Entry Technical Officers Program shall exclusively serve the office/unit where he/she was accepted and must acquire or pursue training related to his/her field of expertise in pursuit of excellence.

Graduates of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) shall be automatically appointed to the initial rank of Police Lieutenant.

In the Lateral Entry for Line Officers Program, licensed criminologists, other professionals who have licenses issued by the Professional Regulation Commission and those who are career service

professionals may be appointed to the rank of Police Lieutenant to fill up vacancies in the PNP Line Units; *Provided*, That they are already members of the PNP with a rank of at least Police Staff Sergeant for uniformed personnel or at least Salary Grade 14 for non- uniformed personnel and have served the organization for at least five (5) years.

Police Lieutenants in the line services shall serve at least five (5) years in the line offices/units they opted to join before they can seek reassignment to other line offices/units.”

SECTION 5. Repealing Clause. - All other provisions of Republic Act 6975, as amended by Republic Act 8551, otherwise known as the "Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998,” and all other laws, executive orders, rules, and regulations, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act shall be deemed modified or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,