SENATE CHEICE OF THE SECRETARY

13th CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC	,
OF THE PHILIPPINES	Ş
First Regular Session	í

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SENATE

S., BILL No. ____12

NECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

Explanatory Note

For the period 2000-2003, the national government's disbursement program always exceeded its revenue targets resulting in budget deficits of P 134.21 B, P147.02 B, P210.74B and P199.9 B, respectively. These were largely an offshoot of the shortfall in tax collections, which accounts for 80-90% of government revenues. In fact for the year 2002, the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) collected only P394.549 billion, which is almost 12% short of its target of P447.556 billion.

Indeed, government's capacity to finance its cash disbursement program and achieve its annual budget deficit targets rests on the revenue agencies' efficiency and effectiveness to collect and meet their respective collection goals.

Historically, our fiscal managers never followed the borrowing mix embodied in the national budget. Every year, they propose to Congress a formula on how they would finance the projected budget deficit for the incoming year. But, the numbers in the proposed borrowing mix are almost always surpassed. The Finance and Budget officials have the uncanny ability to overshoot borrowing targets. The only way for the government to stick to the deficit target this year is for it to mount a severe austerity program, involving cuts in spending which would really hurt, coupled with an aggressive tax collection program.

It is in this light that this measure is earnestly proposed. This bill offers special incentives and reward system to motivate collection officials/officers/employees to render exemplary service while upholding the highest ethical standards while a system of lateral attrition be accorded to those who fail to deliver the revenue or collection goals of their respective revenue-generating units:

"Lateral attrition" refers to the transfer in post or assignment and/or separation from government service, in accordance with civil service laws, rules and regulations.

Covered under the proposed measure are the BIR; Bureau of Customs (BOC), Land Transportation Office (LTO) and other revenue-generating agencies/bureaus under the different departments of the Executive Branch with income of at least One hundred million pesos (P100,000,000.00) per annum, except the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the Bureau of the Treasury.

This bill has already been passed on third reading at the House of Representatives and by both chambers even way back during the 11th Congress.

Thus, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

RALPHGARECTO

MRC/SB 2194 Lateral Attrition.doc

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SENATE

S. BILL No. <u>1236</u>

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Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE OPTIMUM PERFORMANCE IN REVENUE COLLECTION THROUGH THE GRANT OF SPECIAL INCENTIVES AND REWARDS FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE AND THROUGH LATERAL ATTRITION IN REVENUE-GENERATING AGENCIES OF GOVERNMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

- SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to give highest priority to measures that will promote morale, efficiency, integrity, credibility, responsiveness, progressiveness and optimization of all potentials in revenue-generation of the government. Towards this end, optimum performance of the government's revenue-generating agencies, at all levels, shall be assured through the institution of a special reward system for exemplary service and a system of lateral attrition in these specific agencies.
 - SEC. 2. Definition of Terms. As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:
 - (a) "Lateral attrition" refers to the transfer in post or assignment and/or separation from government sérvice, in accordance with civil service laws, rules and regulations, of internal revenue or customs officials/officers/employees and collection officials/officers/employees of other revenue-generating units, who do no meet their respective revenue or collection goals for the year with all due considerations being taken;
 - (b) "Revenue-generating agencies" refer to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR);
 Bureau of Customs (BOC), Land Transportation Office (LTO) and other revenue-generating agencies/bureaus under the different departments of the Executive Branch with income of at least One hundred million pesos (P100,000,000.00) per annum, except the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the Bureau of the Treasury;

(c)	"Revenue o	r collecti	on goals"	refer to	the or	rigin	al revenue	targ	get o	f the age	псу
	concerned	during	a given	budget	year	as	reflected	in	the	Budget	of
	Expenditure	es and So	ources of	Financin	ng (BE	ESF)	submitted	by	the	President	: to
	Congress;										

- (d) "Attritable officials/officers/employees" refer to those employed in revenuegenerating agencies who are involved in the assessment, licensing, examination, and collection of revenues (such as national internal revenue taxes like income tax, value-added tax, estate and donor's tax, documentary stamp tax, excise tax and percentage tax), tariffs, charges, duties, fees, penalties and other legal payments to the government.
- SEC. 3. Coverage. The system of special rewards and incentives and the system of lateral attrition shall cover the revenue and customs officials/officers/employees from the district level up to the Commissioner of the BIR/BOC and their parallel set-up in other revenue-generating agencies. Income generating government-owned and/or controlled corporations are encouraged to adhere with the principles of this Act subject to the provisions of their respective charters and oversight review by the concerned committees of Congress.
- SEC. 4. System of Special Incentives and Rewards. A system of special incentives and rewards in revenue collection shall be established to motivate collection officials/officers/employees to render exemplary service while upholding the highest ethical standards. This shall be awarded to all those who have accomplished the revenue collection goal in their respective units/areas of responsibility.
- The special incentives system shall automatically allocate ten percent (10%) of the excess of the collection over the target as validated by the Development Budget Coordinating Committee created under Executive Order No. 232 series of 1970, as amended, for the period under consideration to be shared as follows:
- 27 (1) Fifty percent (50%) of ten percent (10%) shall be given to the officials/officers/employees of the local agency label which exceeded their target; and

(2) The remaining fifty percent (50%) shall be centralized to the national agency level to be distributed to the officials/officers/employees of the whole agency.

Likewise, the rewards to revenue collection officials/officers/employees may take the form of bonuses, citations, local and foreign scholarship grants, and the like, depending on the extent of involvement in the attainment of the revenue targets.

SEC. 5. Incentives and Rewards Fund. - An incentives and rewards fund shall be created from the amount equivalent to ten percent (10%) of the excess of the revenue collection over the target revenue of the year under consideration. The fund which shall be treated as a Special Account in the General Fund shall be automatically appropriated. All amounts accruing to the Special Account shall be utilized for the payment of special incentives and rewards pursuant to Section 4 of this Act.

SEC. 6. System of Lateral Attrition and Procedures. - There shall be a system of lateral attrition which shall be an instrument to improve or maintain the revenue-collection performance of the BIR, the BOC and other revenue-generating agencies.

Lateral attrition shall be in the form of transfer of post or assignment to a lower-ranking district or area or to a lower post or to a post of less responsible duties and functions or in extreme cases, separation from government service in accordance with civil service laws and rules.

The system of lateral attrition shall be applied only after careful and proper review by the Revenue Performance Evaluation Board (RPEB) as provided for in Section 8 hereof and after compliance with the substantive and procedural due processes as required by the civil service laws and rules: *Provided*, That an official/officer/employee affected by lateral attrition shall be given the right to appeal with the Civil Service Commission in accordance with civil service laws and rules, and finally to the Supreme Court without prejudice to implementation of the decision of the RPEB during the pendency of the case.

SEC. 7. Separation Benefits of Officials/Officers/Employees Affected by Lateral Attrition. - National government officials/officers/employees displaced or separated from the service as a result of lateral attrition shall be allowed to retire under existing retirement laws to which

they are entitled to or to receive separation pay and other benefits in accordance with 2 existing laws, rules and regulations.

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3 SEC. 8. Revenue Performance Evaluation Board for Special Incentives and Rewards and Lateral 4 Attrition. - An administrative body, to be known as the Revenue Performance Evaluation 5 Board, hereinafter referred to as Board, is hereby created. For the BIR and the BOC, the 6 Board shall include the Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF), the Chairman of the 7 Senate and House Committees on Ways and Means, one (1) representatives from the Office 8 of the President, the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue/Deputy Commissioner of 9 Customs in charge of Administration, a representative from the recognized employees' 10 organization in the agency concerned, and a representative of a recognized officers' 11 organization, if any. Said Board, shall be chaired by the Secretary of the DOF. For other 12 revenue-generating agencies under the Executive Branch, the same level and composition of 13 the Board shall be created.

The Board shall be responsible for issuing the rules and procedures in the conduct of the revenue performance evaluation and shall receive additional per diem in line with the performance of their added tasks as specified in this Act.

The Board is given a maximum period of two (2) months to resolve an attritable case.

In the determination by the RPEB of whether the form of lateral attrition is transfer of post or separation from the service, the degree or level of non-performance or nonattainment of revenue targets, with all due considerations taken, shall be the determining factor. No lateral attrition in the form of separation from the service shall be applied or imposed by the Revenue Performance Evaluation Board on an attritable official, officer, employee unless the official's /officer's/employee's revenue collection falls short of the target by thirty percent (30%), with all due considerations taken, unless there is evidence of graft and corruption.

SEC. 9. Exemptions. - The system of lateral attrition shall not apply in the following instances:

I	(a)	Where the district or area of responsibility covered by revenue, customs, and
2		other collection officials/officers/employees has suffered from economic
3		difficulties brought about by natural or man-made calamities, industry setback
4		in the market, regional financial crisis, and like situations;
5	(b)	Where the district or area of responsibility is newly-created, not exceeding two
6		(2) years in operation, and has no historical record of collection performance
7	-	that can be used as basis for evaluation; and

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- Where the revenue or customs official/officer/employee is a recent transferee (c) in the middle of the period under consideration unless the transfer was due to non-performance of revenue targets or potential non-performance of revenue targets.
- SEC. 10. Annual Reports. The Office of the Secretary of the Department with revenue-generating agencies which are under its jurisdiction and other revenue-generating agencies which are named in this Act, shall monitor and render an annual report to the President and the Congress and make public the extent of their compliance with the law.

Likewise, in close coordination with the Civil Service Commission, the department concerned shall also conduct a personnel effectiveness audit of the revenue-generating agencies to determine the optimum performance of officials/officers/employees and full utilization of personnel.

SEC. 11. Rules and Regulations. - In consultation with the Office of the President, all revenue-generating agencies named in this Act, together with the Civil Service Commission and a representative from the Senate and House Committees on Ways and Means, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 12. Separability Clause. - If any of the provisions of this Act is declared invalid by a competent court, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected by such declaration of invalidity shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 13. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, other executive issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

- 1 SEC. 14. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
- 2 in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
- 3 Approved,