

SENATE

S. No. 366

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

At the time when the credibility of the country's law enforcement agencies has sank to an all-time low, the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) has managed to retain an image of acceptability to the public in their conduct of investigations which has led to the solution of many major heinous crimes.

The NBI serves the needs of law enforcement agencies at both national and local levels. It is also charged with investigating various irregularities and anomalies in government, and cases of graft and corruption. For all of its wide-ranging functions, the NBI has reportedly no more than one thousand five hundred (1,500) agents. The apparent need to expand the manpower complement of the NBI is constrained by the fact that under the present law, only members of the Bar and Certified Public Accountants may be qualified to become NBI agents. The Salary Standardization Law presently prescribes a hiring rate of Five Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Pesos (P5,670) a month without Cost of Living Allowance (COLA). At these rates it is difficult to recruit people who qualify.

This bill proposes to increase the minimum salary level of every NBI agent who should be a member of the Bar or a Certified Public Accountant at Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) a month, but those lawyers or Certified Public Accountants with five (5) or more years of experience shall receive a minimum salary of Fifteen Thousand Pesos (P15,000) a month and in all cases, an NBI agent shall be entitled to hazard pay of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P2,500.00) a month in addition to Cost of Living Allowance (COLA)

The bill likewise provides that the salary scales and position classifications of NBI officers and employees shall be exempt from the provisions of R.A. No 6758. Considering further the continued effects of inflation and other economic developments of nominal values of the foregoing salary scales, this bill also proposes to authorize the President of the Philippines to modify or change the salary scales and position classification of the NBI agents in any manner he may deem fit.

The bill seek to upgrade the salaries of NBI agents to more competitive levels that will inspire honesty and hard work, and give more muscle to the government's commitment to peace and order.

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

S. Osmeña III
SERGIO OSMEÑA III
Senator

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AN ACT
INCREASING THE MINIMUM SALARY OF NATIONAL BUREAU OF
INVESTIGATION AGENTS TO TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) A MONTH
AND THOSE WITH FIVE (5) OR MORE YEARS EXPERIENCE TO FIFTEEN
THOUSAND PESOS (P15,000.00) A MONTH, EXEMPTING SAID OFFICE FROM THE
SALARY STANDARDIZATION LAW, AN FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the minimum
2 salary of National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) agents who are members of the Bar or
3 Certified Public Accountants shall be Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) a month:
4 *Provided*, That those with at least five (5) years of experience as a member of the Bar
5 or Certified Public Accountant shall receive at least Fifteen thousand pesos
6 (P15,000.00) a month: *Provided, further*, That every NBI agent shall be entitled to a
7 hazard pay of Two thousand five hundred pesos (P2,500.00) a month in addition to the
8 cost of living allowance (COLA) which they may be entitled under existing law.

9 SEC. 2. The Salary scales and position classifications of NBI agents shall be
10 exempt from the provisions of R.A. No. 6758 otherwise known as "The Compensation
11 and Position Classification Act of 1998": *Provided*, That the President of the Philippines
12 may fix higher salaries for NBI agents other than those prescribed in the preceding
13 Section.

14 SEC. 3. The Civil Service Commission shall promulgate such rules and
15 regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

1 SEC. 4. The amount of Forty million pesos (P40,000,000.00) is hereby initially
2 appropriated to carry out the provisions of this Act. Such additional amount that may be
3 needed to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General
4 Appropriations Act for the year following the approval of this Act.

5 SEC. 5. All laws, executive orders and rules and regulations which are
6 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby considered repealed, amended or
7 modified accordingly.

8 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2)
9 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,