

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'73 JUL -8 A8:21

SENATE

S.B. No. 523

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator LOREN LEGARDA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Presidential Decree No. 1569 was issued in 1978 to address the prevailing conditions of malnutrition in the country. It aimed to tackle malnutrition concerns, specifically in the grassroots level, by initiating a project that will provide a nutrition worker for every barangay.

Though said law considerably contributed to the significant reduction of malnutrition in the country, at present the number of malnourished children is still at an alarming level. It is therefore necessary to examine the implementation of the above mandate for the country to have a well-nourished population – one that would contribute to the national economic welfare.

In recognition of the above, this bill seeks to create a mandatory position of Barangay Nutrition Worker in every barangay. A salient feature of the bill is the enumerated qualifications of said nutrition workers, requiring them to be at least a high school graduate.

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


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

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AN ACT
CREATING THE POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN EVERY
BARANGAY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1569

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Presidential Decree No. 1569 entitled "Strengthening the Barangay
2 Nutrition Program by providing for a Nutrition Scholar in Every Barangay" is hereby
3 amended to read as follows:

4 "SECTION 1. BARANGAY NUTRITION PROGRAM. To strengthen the
5 Barangay Nutrition Program, there shall be CREATED under the administration
6 and SUPERVISION of the NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL IN
7 COORDINATION WITH THE CITY or MUNICIPALITY and the BARANGAY,
8 ONE (1) MANDATORY POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN
9 EVERY BARANGAY WITH A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF NOT LESS THAN
10 FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00).

11 SECTION 2. BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER. The Barangay
12 Nutrition Worker shall be APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR WITH THE
13 CONCURRENCE OF THE MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE
14 SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OR THE SANGGUNIANG Panlungsod, THE
15 SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY CONCERNED AND UPON THE
16 RECOMMENDATION OF THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL. The
17 barangay nutrition worker shall be responsible for delivering nutrition services
18 and other related activities such as community health, backyard food production,
19 environmental sanitation, culture, supplemental feeding and family planning to
20 the barangay.

1 environmental sanitation, culture, supplemental feeding and family planning to
2 the barangay.

3 SECTION 3. SERVICES. The barangay nutrition worker, while
4 [continuously learning] UNDERGOING ACTUAL TRAINING under this
5 program, shall serve the barangay on a voluntary basis for at least [a period of
6 one year] SIX MONTHS. THEREAFTER, THE NATIONAL NUTRITION
7 COUNCIL SHALL ASSESS HIS/HER PERFORMANCE AND MAKE THE
8 NECESSARY RECOMMENDATION FOR HIS/HER APPOINTMENT.

9 SECTION 4. QUALIFICATIONS. The qualifications of a Barangay
10 Nutrition Worker shall be as follows:

- 11 a. Bonafide resident of the barangay for at least one (1) year, with ability to
12 speak the dialect, if applicable;
- 13 b. Possession of leadership potentials and the initiative and willingness to serve
14 the barangay (for at least one year);
- 15 c. Willingness to learn and to teach what he/she learned to the barangay
16 people;
- 17 d. At least a (primary) HIGHSCHOOL graduate;
- 18 e. Physical and mental fitness; and
- 19 f. At least eighteen (18) years old but not more than sixty (60) years old.

20 SECTION 5. RECRUITMENT. The barangay nutrition worker shall be
21 recruited from within the barangay and shall be tested on mental ability and
22 proper work attitude.

23 SECTION 6. TRAINING. Before actual barangay service, the barangay
24 nutrition worker shall undergo a ten-day (10) training on selected topics such as
25 nutrition, health, food production and environmental sanitation - based on
26 defined task expectations to be conducted by a provincial training team in
27 coordination with the municipal and barangay nutrition committee. This training
28 shall be supplemented by a twenty-day (20) practicum to be conducted in the
29 barangay where the worker is assigned, and such activity shall be in
30 coordination with the local training team.

31 SECTION 7. BENEFITS. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be entitled
32 to a training stipend, meal and travel allowance of at least P250.00 a day.

1 DURING THE PERIOD OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE PRIOR TO HIS/HER
2 APPOINTMENT, THEY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ALLOWANCE OF TWO
3 THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00) A MONTH.

4 The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be granted a civil service eligibility
5 equivalent to second grade after the completion of at least two (2) years of
6 continuous and satisfactory service in the barangay.

7 SECTION 8. INCENTIVES. TO FURTHER ENHANCE THE PROGRAM,
8 THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL, IN COORDINATION WITH THE
9 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SHALL FORMULATE A SCHOLARSHIP
10 PROGRAM WHERE INCUMBENT AND DESERVING BARANGAY
11 NUTRITION WORKERS SHALL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO AVAIL
12 OF A SCHOLARSHIP GRANT IN ANY STATE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
13 AND PURSUE A COURSE RELEVANT TO HIS/HER PRESENT POSITION.

14 SECTION 9. NUTRITION COMMITTEES. The implementation of this
15 project shall be under the full responsibility of a Provincial/City Nutrition
16 Committee headed by the Governor/City Mayor as Chairman and a Municipal
17 Nutrition Committee headed by the Mayor as Chairman.

18 SECTION 10. LOCAL TRAINING TEAM. The local training team of the
19 municipality shall be composed of two members chosen from among the
20 members of the Municipal Nutrition Committee. This team shall follow up the
21 activities of the trained barangay nutrition worker.

22 SECTION 11. ROLE OF THE MAYOR. The Municipal/City Mayor shall
23 initiate activities to implement this project within the municipality, organize the
24 local training teams and may recommend the appropriation by his
25 municipality/city of a local counterpart in the form of additional allowance for
26 the barangay nutrition worker.

27 SECTION 12. BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS STAFF
28 SECRETARIAT. There shall be a staff secretariat in every province/city which
29 shall monitor the progress of the program, identify its problems and recommend
30 possible solutions thereto.

31 SECTION 13. NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL. The National
32 Nutrition Council shall formulate rules and regulations, plans and programs
33 within the limits set forth in this Act, allocate the funds for this project to the

1 various provinces and/or agencies, for disbursement in accordance with the
2 financial plan of the Barangay Nutrition Workers Project.

3 SECTION 14. DONATIONS. For the purposes of this Program, the
4 National Nutrition Council and the local governments, are authorized to receive
5 grants, donations, gifts or bequests from various government agencies,
6 government corporations and private entities, such donation being tax exempt.

7 SECTION 15. APPROPRIATIONS. The amount of One Million Pesos
8 (P1,000,000.00) out of any available funds from the National Treasury or from the
9 Special Activities Fund is hereby appropriated and authorized to be released for
10 the organization and initial operation of the Council and the local governments
11 for the purposes of this program. Local governments are likewise authorized to
12 appropriate such amount necessary for the successful implementation of this
13 program. PROVIDED, THAT THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL
14 APPROPRIATE AS PART OF ITS ANNUAL BUDGET FOR PERSONAL
15 SERVICES THE NECESSARY AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND PESOS
16 (P1,000.00) PER MONTH PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER, PROVIDED
17 FURTHER, THAT THIRD TO FIFTH CLASS MUNICIPALITIES SHALL
18 APPROPRIATE FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00) PER MONTH PER
19 BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER.

20 THE DIFFERENCE IN THE FIVE THOUSAND PESOS' (P5,000.00)
21 MONTHLY ALLOWANCE PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER SHALL
22 BE INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA) FOR THE
23 YEAR FOLLOWING ITS ENACTMENT.

24 **SEC 2. *Separability Clause.*** Should any part or provision of this Act be declared
25 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof not otherwise affected
26 thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

27 **SEC 3. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, decrees, executive orders or any part thereof
28 which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

29 **SEC 4. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect upon publication in the Official
30 Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

31 Approved,