

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



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SENATE
S.B.No. 1267

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

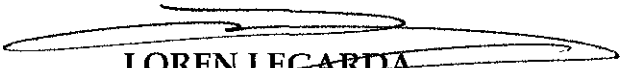
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution recognizes the significant role of our Armed Forces as the protector of the people, tasked to secure the sovereignty of the State and the integrity of the national territory. With the enormity of these tasks, there arises a need to uphold professionalism in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and ensure the adequate remuneration of its members.

The hard reality, however, is that our uniformed personnel remain among the lowest paid public servants. While their salary follows the basic salary standardization scheme, the dangerous circumstances under which they sometimes perform their duties in the combat zone entitles them to additional remuneration in the form of combat pay and of subsistence allowance.

Current computations peg the combat duty pay of officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) at a measly P500.00 per month while the subsistence allowance is at P90.00 per day. This insignificant amount hardly reflects a recognition on the part of government of the fact that while soldiers are in a combat zone, they are in an immediate state of danger and, therefore, deserve special compensation.

For the foregoing reasons, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

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AN ACT INCREASING THE COMBAT DUTY PAY AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE OF ALL PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES TO TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) OF THEIR BASE PAY AND TO ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY PESOS (P180.00) PER DAY, RESPECTIVELY AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. Increase in Combat Duty Pay and Subsistence Allowance** - In line with
2 the declared policy of the State to promote professionalism in the Armed Forces of the
3 Philippines (AFP) and ensure the adequate remuneration and benefits of its members,
4 the Combat Duty Pay of all AFP personnel is hereby increased from five hundred pesos
5 (P500.00) per month to an amount equivalent to twenty- five percent (25%) of their base
6 pay. Likewise, the Subsistence Allowance of all AFP personnel is hereby increased from
7 ninety pesos (P90.00) per day to one hundred eighty pesos (P180.00) per day.

8
9 **SEC. 2. Appropriation.** - Such amount as may be necessary to implement this Act for
10 the current year shall be charged against the savings of the Department of National
11 Defense (DND). Thereafter, the National Government shall appropriate annually and
12 include in the General Appropriations Act the amount corresponding to the total
13 annual cost of the increase in Combat Duty Pay and in Subsistence Allowance.

14
15 **SEC. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The DND in coordination with the AFP
16 shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of
17 this Act.

18
19 **SEC. 4. Repealing Clause.** - All provisions of any other laws, orders, acts, decrees as
20 well as rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified
21 accordingly.

22
23 **SEC. 5. Separability Clause.** - If any part or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or
24 unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions hereof which are not affected
25 thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

26
27 **SEC. 6. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days from the date of
28 its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

29
30 Approved,