SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



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SENATE

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S. No. 1274

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

EXPLANATORY NOTE

During the first quarter of 2013 the Department of Environment and Natural Resources ("DENR") launched a scholarship program for the children of DENR workers who are killed in the performance of their duties. This program reflected recognition by the DENR that dangers are intrinsic to the work of their employees and that the latter's basic compensation is not sufficient to remunerate any loss to life or limb.

Likewise, Republic Act No. 7305, otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Public Health Workers, mandates the release of allowances to public health workers in consideration of their exposure to risks to health and life in the course of the performance of their functions. This is a clear reflection of the State's interest to compensate public servants for any exposure to danger to health or life that may result from the performance of official duties.

The proposed measure grants hazard pay to all officials and employees when their functions expose them to health and life risks, particularly when they are assigned to hazardous areas, isolated and inaccessible areas, x-ray units, institutions that care for those with severe psychological disorders, places that are subject to depredation by criminal elements, plants and installations of arsenals, aboard aircrafts and watercrafts in crossing bodies of water and other similar situations.

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

TO" M. LAP Senator

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AN ACT **GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO COVERED EMPLOYEES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to protect 1 2 and promote the welfare of public servants by providing them with additional benefits that take into account the nature of their responsibilities and the risks that may be 3 · 4 inherent thereto.

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SEC. 2. Hazard Pay. - All employees and officials of the Government shall be paid hazard pay when stationed or assigned to work in or under the following 7 circumstances or conditions: 8

Hazardous or less hazardous areas, as may be declared by the Secretary 9 (a) 10 of National Defense;

Difficult areas or posts characterized by inaccessibility, inordinate distance 11 (b) of travel, inconvenience of travel due to bad roads and terrain conditions, isolation, and 12 severe, inclement weather conditions, and the like; 113

X-ray units, clinics, laboratories, sanitaria, leprosaria, and other similar 14 (c) stations which entail health and safety risks due to exposure to radiation, contagious 15 /16 diseases, volcanic activity, and the like;

Institutions that tend to or care for patients diagnosed with severe (d) 17 psychological disorders, such as those who are prone to inflicting harm on others; 18

Places easily accessible by criminal elements, such as prison reservations 19 (e) and penal colonies without adequate police protection; 20

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Plants and installations of arsenals; (f)

Aboard aircrafts or watercrafts while the same are in transit; (g)

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1 (h) Such other similar work conditions to be considered hazardous on the 2 basis of exposure to environmental, health, and social risks.

4 **SEC. 3.** *Coverage.* - The benefits provided shall be given to all government 5 officials and employees who have rendered at least one (1) year of continuous and 6 faithful government service.

8 SEC. 4. Amount of Hazard Pay. - The amount or rate of hazard pay shall 9 be determined by the government agencies employing covered officials and employees 10 based on the nature of their work and the extent of their exposure to risk.

12 SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* - The Department of 13 Budget and Management shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement 14 the provisions of this Act.

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SEC. 6. *Funding.* - The funds to implements this Act shall be included in
the General Appropriations Act.

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19 **SEC. 7.** Separability Clause. - Should any provision of this Act be declared 20 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby 21 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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23 **SEC. 8.** *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and 24 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby 25 repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

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27 **SEC. 9.** *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its 28 complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general 29 circulation.

Approved,

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