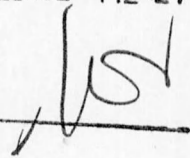


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

'17 FEB 22 P12:21

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1347

Introduced by **SENATOR LEILA M. DE LIMA**

AN ACT
GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO JUSTICE SECTOR OFFICIALS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Sec. 5 provides:

“SEC 5. The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all people of the blessings of democracy.”

The rule of law is the principle upon which all modern societies are based. For our democracy to function, we must instill upon our citizens faith in our court system. Our government must endeavor to keep our courts functioning in spite of the forces that undermine them.


Our country is not a stranger to risks. Even as natural disasters batter our country with increasing frequency, armed conflicts continue to haunt our institutions. Yet we should strive to keep the courts operating especially in these areas that need governance most.

Add to this is the criminality and terrorism that seek to sow fear against those that stand in their way, including our court officials who are tasked with administering justice. Officials in second level courts are further exposed to risks from criminal elements being the courts assigned to hear heinous crimes and cases with higher stakes.

In light of the dangers that threaten our court officials, *i.e.* judges, clerks of court, public prosecutors, and public attorneys, deserve our support. We need to

enact an incentive system that is commensurate to the dangers faced by our public officials. This will encourage our brave countrymen to take up posts in otherwise less than ideal public offices.

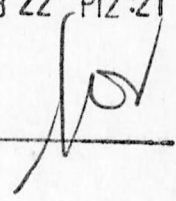
This bill provides for a hazard pay for court officials in areas where there is risk involved, including risks of natural disasters and armed conflicts. This bill also provides for additional hazard pay for court officials in second level courts.


LEILA M. DE LIMA

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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AN ACT
GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO JUSTICE SECTOR OFFICIALS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Hazard Pay for Justice*
2 *Sector Officials Act*”.

3 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It shall be declared a policy of the State to promote
4 the Rule of Law in all corners of the country. To this end, the State shall enact
5 measures to protect the public servants who play crucial roles in the administration
6 of justice.

7 **Sec. 3. Definition of Terms:**

8 1. *Covered Officials.* – include First and Second Level judges, clerks of court,
9 public prosecutors, and public attorneys;

10 2. *First Level Courts* – include Metropolitan Trial Courts, Municipal Trial Courts
11 in Cities, Municipal Trial Courts, Municipal Circuit Trial Courts and the
12 Shari’a Circuit Courts;

1 3. *Second Level Courts* – include Regional Trial Courts and Shari'a District
2 Courts;

3 4. *Risk-adjacent Courts* – courts declared as such by the Supreme Court by
4 reason of their geographical location or proximity to prolonged armed
5 conflicts or disaster prone areas, whether First Level or Second Level Court.

6 **Sec. 4. *Grant of Hazard Pay.*** – The covered officials in Risk-adjacent Courts shall
7 be granted a monthly hazard pay of fifteen percent (15%) of their basic monthly
8 salary.

9 **Sec. 5. *Additional Hazard Pay.*** –The covered officials in Second Level Courts who
10 handle criminal cases shall be entitled to an additional hazard pay of ten percent
11 (10%) of their basic monthly salary.

12 **Sec. 6. *Exemption from Tax.*** – The hazard pay for covered officials shall not be
13 subject to tax and nothing in this Act shall be construed as to diminish, in any
14 manner, any benefit granted by existing laws, rules and regulations, local ordinances
15 and other issuances especially favorable to said covered officials.

16 **Sec. 7.** The Department of Budget and Management, in consultation with the
17 Supreme Court and Department of Justice shall, within sixty (60) days after the
18 effectivity of this Act, issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

19 **Sec. 8. *Appropriations.*** – Such amounts as may be necessary to implement this Act
20 for the current year shall be charged against the savings of the Supreme Court and
21 the Department of Justice. Thereafter, the National Government shall appropriate
22 annually and include in the General Appropriations Act the amount corresponding to
23 the total annual cost of the allowances under this Act.

1 **Sec. 9. Separability Clause.** Should any provision of this Act be declared invalid, the
2 remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and subsisting.

3 **Sec. 10. Repealing Clause.** All laws, executive orders, or administrative orders,
4 rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
5 amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

6 **Sec. 11. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
7 the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,