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THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REP OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session	UBLIC)) (3. 3. 25 71 74)
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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Republic Act 6975, also known as the "Department of Interior and Local Government Act of 1990", in order to upgrade and strengthen law enforcement agencies, enhance public safety services and insure a more effective administration of criminal justice by providing the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) and Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) a continuing pool of criminology graduates, professional criminologist and criminology experts who have complied with existing policies and standards in their respective fields of expertise established by the government through the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). With this innovation it is anticipated that more efficient and effective services in the fields of law enforcement, criminal justice system administration, public security and safety administration, and correction and jail management will be established.

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975 ALSO KNOWN AS "DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1990" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 30 of Republic Act 6975 is, hereby, amended to read as follows:

Section 30. General Qualifications for Appointment. - No person shall be appointed as officer or member of the PNP unless he possesses the following minimum qualifications:

(a) A citizen of the Philippines.

x x x

(d) Must possess a formal/APPROPRIATE baccalaureate degree [as officer] and must have finished at least second year college of the equivalent seventy-two (72) collegiate units for non-officer or an equivalent of training or experience for those already in the service upon the effectivity of this Act.

(e) Must be eligible in accordance with the standard set by the [Commission] NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION.

x x x

(i) For new applicants, must not be less than twenty-one (21) not more than thirty (30) years of age; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE HEIGHT AND AGE REQUIREMENT AS ABOVE PRESCRIBED, MAY BE WAIVED IN THE EXIGENCY OF THE SERVICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO BE PROMULGATED BY THE NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION.

SECTION 2. Section 32 of Republic Act No. 6975 is, hereby, amended to read as follows:

"Section 32. Examination of Policemen. – The [Civil Service Commission] NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION shall administer the qualifying entrance examination for policemen on the basis of the standards set by the commission; PROVIDED THAT GRADUATES OF CRIMINOLOGY FROM ANY PHILIPPINE SCHOOL OF CRIMINOLOGY DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) SHALL BE ALLOWED TO ENLIST OR BE APPOINTED AS MEMBER OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE WITH A RANK OF AT LEAST POLICE OFFICER 1 WITHOUT NEED OF TAKING THE QUALIFYING EXAMINATION".

SECTION 3. Section 33 of Republic Act No. 6975 is, hereby, amended to read as follows.

Section 33. Lateral Entry of Officers into the PNP. – In general, all original appointments of commissioned officers in the PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP), BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP) shall commence with the rank of Inspector, to include all those with highly technical qualifications applying in the PNP, BJMP and BFP technical services, such as dentists, optometrists, nurses, engineers, graduates of forensic sciences, PSYCHOLOGISTS, COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS, ACCOUNTANTS AND OTHER BACCALAUREATTE DEGREE HOLDERS. Doctors of medicine, members of the Philippine Bar, and chaplains shall be appointed to the rank of senior inspector in their particular technical service, PROVIDED THEY SHALL HAVE PASSED THE REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS WHICH SHALL ENTITLE THEM TO PRACTICE THEIR RESPECTIVE PROFESSIONS . Graduates of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) shall be automatically appointed to the initial rank of inspector.

Licensed or REGISTERED CRIMINOLGIST [may] SHALL BE APPOINTED TO THE INITIAL RANK OF INSPECTOR IN THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP) AND BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP); PROVIDED, SHOULD THERE BE NO VACANCY FOR THE RANK OF INSPECTOR, THEIR LICENSE CAN BE USED AS INITIAL APPOINTMENT TO THE PNP, BJMP AND BFP.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause*. - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause*. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.

FN: 675