

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



'22 NOV -3 P5 :43

SENATE

S. No. 1457

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the latest survey conducted by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI), six out of every 10 Filipinos or 62.1% of Filipinos experience moderate or severe food insecurity or malnutrition. The same survey shows that around 31.2% of Filipino children aged 5-10 are underweight, and 31.1% are stunted. Amongst children who are aged 0-2, around 26.2% are undernourished, and about 33.5% of children below the age of five suffer from stunting. According to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), around 95 children in our country die daily from malnutrition. With such disturbing statistics, it can even be surmised that malnutrition is worse than the pandemic.

The magnitude and severity of the malnutrition in the country urgently calls for greater involvement of the people from the grassroots level. The present government's manpower is not enough to cope with the increasing number of people who still have to be effectively reached by nutrition intervention schemes.

Presidential Decree No. 1569 was issued in 1978 to strengthen the country's nutrition program by initiating a project that will provide for a barangay nutrition worker in every barangay. This enactment is primarily to establish a network reaching

the grassroots levels to address malnutrition. But even while this program is instrumental in the reduction of malnutrition in recent years, a large percentage of the population still do not get enough food to eat and more so, the right nutrition.

This bill seeks to provide for the creation and filling up of one (1) mandatory position of Barangay Nutrition Worker (BNW) in every barangay to address the malnutrition problem that afflicts the vulnerable groups in our communities, particularly preschool, school children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. This bill aims to reduce the prevalence rate of malnutrition among moderate and severe preschoolers and school children. Further, it seeks to professionalize the position of BNW by requiring the qualification to be at least a high school graduate.

Approval of this bill is, therefore, most earnestly urged.



RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

1 Section 1. Presidential Decree numbered fifteen hundred sixty-nine (P.D. No.
2 1569), entitled "*Strengthening the Barangay Nutrition Program by providing for a*
3 *Nutrition Scholar in Every Barangay*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 *Sec. 1. Barangay Nutrition Program.* To strengthen the Barangay
5 Nutrition Program, there shall be [~~project~~] **CREATED** under the administration
6 and **SUPERVISION** of the National Nutrition Council **IN COORDINATION**
7 **WITH THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY AND THE BARANGAY**, [~~which shall~~
8 ~~provide for~~] one (1) **MANDATORY POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION**
9 [~~scholar~~] **WORKER IN** every barangay **WITH A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE**
10 **OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00).**

11 *Sec. 2. Barangay Nutrition [Scholar] Worker.* The Barangay Nutrition
12 [~~scholar~~] **WORKER** shall be **APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR WITH THE**
13 **CONCURRENCE OF THE MAJORITY OF ALL SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OR**
14 **THE SANGGUNIANG PANGLUNGSOD MEMBERS, THE SANGGUNIANG**
15 **BARANGAY CONCERNED AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE**
16 **NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL.** The barangay nutrition worker shall be
17 responsible for delivering nutrition services and other related activities such as

1 community health, backyard food production, environmental sanitation,
2 culture, supplemental feeding and family planning to the barangay.

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

9 *Sec. 4. Qualifications.* The qualifications of a Barangay Nutrition Worker
10 shall be as follows:

- 11 a. Bonafide resident of the barangay for at least [~~four (4) years~~]
12 one (1) year, with ability to speak the dialect;
- 13 b. Possession of leadership potentials and the initiative and
14 willingness to serve the barangay [~~for at least one year~~];
- 15 c. Willingness to learn and to teach what he/she learned to the
16 barangay people;
- 17 d. At least a [~~primary~~] **HIGH SCHOOL** graduate;
- 18 e. Physical and mental fitness and;
- 19 f At least eighteen (18) years old but not more than sixty (60)
20 years old.

21 *Sec. 5. Recruitment.* The barangay nutrition worker shall be recruited
22 from within the barangay and shall be tested on mental ability and proper work
23 attitude.

24 *Sec 6. Benefits.* The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be granted a civil
25 service eligibility equivalent to second grade after the completion of at least
26 two (2) years of continuous and satisfactory service in the barangay. [He] **THE**
27 **BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER** shall also be entitled to a training
28 stipend, meal and travel allowance of at least [~~P120.00 a year~~] P250.00 a day,

1 ~~[and in addition thereto, such other allowances that the municipality may grant~~
2 ~~but not exceeding P150.00 a month.]~~

3 **DURING THE PERIOD OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE PRIOR TO**
4 **APPOINTMENT, HE/SHE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ALLOWANCE OF**
5 **TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00) A MONTH.**

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

13 *Sec. 7. Training.* Before actual barangay service, the barangay nutrition
14 worker shall undergo a ten-day training on selected topics such as nutrition,
15 health, food production and environmental sanitation, based on defined task
16 expectations to be conducted by a provincial training team in coordination with
17 the municipal and barangay nutrition committee. This training shall be
18 supplemented by a twenty-day practicum to be conducted in the barangay
19 where the worker is assigned, and such activity shall be in coordination with
20 the local training team.

21 *Sec. 8. Nutrition Committees.* The implementation of this project shall
22 be the total responsibility of a Provincial/City Nutrition Committee headed by
23 the Governor/City Mayor as Chairman and a Municipal Nutrition Committee
24 headed by the Mayor as Chairman.

25 *Sec. 9. Local Training Team.* The local training team of the municipality
26 shall be composed of two members chosen from among the 2 members of the
27 Municipal Nutrition Committee. This team shall follow up the activities of the
28 trained barangay nutrition worker.

1 Sec. 10. *Role of the Provincial Governor* [~~City Mayor~~]. The Provincial
2 Governor [~~City Mayor~~] shall be responsible for the program throughout the
3 province/city, of an amount sufficient to support this program.

4 Sec. 11. *Role of the [Municipal] Mayor*. The [Municipal] Mayor shall
5 initiate activities to implement this project within [~~the municipality~~] **THEIR**
6 **JURISDICTION**, organize the local training teams and may recommend the
7 appropriation by his municipality/city of a local counterpart in the form of
8 additional allowance for the barangay nutrition worker.

9 *Sec. 12. Barangay Nutrition Workers Staff Secretariat*. There shall be a
10 staff secretariat in every province/city which shall monitor the progress of the
11 program, identify its problems and recommend possible solutions thereto.

12 *Sec. 13. National Nutrition Council*. The National Nutrition Council shall
13 formulate rules and regulations, plans and programs within the limits set forth
14 in this Act, allocate the funds for this project to the various provinces and/or
15 agencies, for disbursement in accordance with the financial plan of the
16 Barangay Nutrition Workers Project.

17 *Sec. 14. Donations*. For the purposes of this Program, the National
18 Nutrition Council and the local governments are authorized to receive grants;
19 donations, gifts or bequests from various government agencies and
20 government corporations which shall be tax exempt.

21 *Sec. 15. Appropriations*. The amount of One Million Pesos out of any
22 available funds from the National Treasury or from the Special Activities Funds
23 is hereby appropriated and authorized to be released for the organization and
24 initial operation of the Council and the local governments for the purposes of
25 this program. Local governments are likewise authorized to appropriate such
26 **AMOUNTS NECESSARY FOR THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF**
27 **THIS PROGRAM, PROVIDED, THAT THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY**
28 **SHALL APPROPRIATE, AS PART OF ITS ANNUAL BUDGET FOR**
29 **PERSONAL SERVICES, THE NECESSARY AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND**
30 **PESOS (P1,000.00) PER MONTH PER BARANGAY NUTRITION**

1 **WORKER, *PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT THIRD TO FIFTH CLASS**
2 **MUNICIPALITIES SHALL APPROPRIATE FIVE HUNDRED PESOS**
3 **(P500.00) PER MONTH PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER. THE**
4 **DIFFERENCE IN THE FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5, 000.00) MONTHLY**
5 **ALLOWANCE PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER SHALL BE**
6 **INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA) FOR THE**
7 **YEAR FOLLOWING ITS ENACTMENT.**

8
9 *Sec. 2. Separability Clause.* - If any of the provisions or part of this Act is
10 declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions or parts thereof not affected
11 thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

12 *Sec. 3. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders or any part
13 thereof which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified
14 accordingly.

15 *Sec. 4. Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect upon publication in the *Official*
16 *Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,