

SENATE  
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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

7 SEP 15

SENATE

RECEIVED 10:10 AM  


S. No. 1609

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Introduced by Senator Biazon  
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Explanatory Note

The Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), a public corporation created by Republic Act No. 2640, as amended, has been a cornerstone in the protection and advancement of the welfare and rights of the country's veterans. It has championed their cause by pushing for meaningful reforms in the benefits accorded them by existing laws.

The VFP is composed of several persons as original members thereof, all of which are representatives of veterans' organizations. It is under the control and supervision of the Secretary of National Defense and is vested with enough powers necessary for a corporation to exist in accordance with its avowed purpose.

In its rich history, one of the more active organizations is the Bulacan Military Area Veterans Association led by the late BGen. Alejo S. Santos. In World War II, his command led the fight against the Japanese invasion in Central Luzon particularly in Bulacan. With courage and gallantry in battle, many of their soldiers and guerrillas died while fighting for our freedom and independence.

It is thus only fair and just to include, by amending the VFP charter, BGen. Alejo S. Santos and his Bulacan Military Area Veterans Association as one of its original members. In fact, General Alejo Santos has served the VFP in several capacities as an officer thereof. This is both in recognition and acknowledgement of their patriotism and sacrifices for the country.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**Rodolfo G. Biazon**  
Senator

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AN ACT

FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2640 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO CREATE A PUBLIC CORPORATION TO BE KNOWN AS THE VETERANS FEDERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, DEFINING ITS POWERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," AS AMENDED, BY INCLUDING ALEJO SANTOS OF THE BULACAN MILITARY AREA VETERANS ASSOCIATION AS ONE OF THE MEMBERS THEREOF.

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

SECTION ONE. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 2640 as amended is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. The following persons, to wit: Emilio Aguinaldo of Association delos Veteranos de la Revolucion; Margarito Torralba of the AFP Retired Veterans Associatin (AFREVA); Lorenzo B. Cabrera of the Confederation of Filipino Veterans (CONVETS); Teodoro V. Kalaw of the Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor; Fausto S. Alberto of the ECLGA Veterans Association; Enrique C. Rimando of the FAIT Veterans Legion; Francisco L. Gonzales of the Filipino Disabled Veterans Association; Basilia M. Baja of the Gold Star Mothers and United War Widows and Orphans Association of the Philippines; Simeon C. Medalla of the Hunters ROTC Association; Antonio F. Garcia of the Magsaysay Veterans Legion; Dionisio V. Ojeda of the PEFTOK Veterans Association; Primitivo Lovina of the Philippine National Guard Veterans Legion; Jose V. Andrada of the Philippine Naval Veterans Legion; Jaime Piopongco of the Philippine Veterans Legion; Sofia L. Prudenciado of the Philippine Association of War Widows, Parents and Orphans; Eugenio B. Recto of the United Disabled Veterans Association of the Philippines; ALEJO S. SANTOS OF THE BULACAN MILITARY AREA VETERANS ASSOCIATION; and Gaudencio Antonino of the USASIP-NL

and their associates and successors are hereby created a body corporate, under the control and supervision of the Secretary of National Defense, under the name, style and title of "Veterans Federation of the Philippines," hereinafter referred to as the Federation. The principal office of the Federation shall be in the City of Manila, Philippines."

Sec.2. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two newspaper of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,