

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session

8 AUG -5 10:55

SENATE
S.B. No. **2515**



RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Health contributes to the national economy. A healthy labor force produces a higher income for the country. An insignificant number of our fellow Filipinos recognize this as they attend to the thousands of people, specifically those living in the barangays, who cannot avail of the proper medical attention in their respective localities. However, the current supply of these volunteers seems to be insufficient to address the growing needs of our barangay folk.

The government, pursuant to Article II, Section 15 of the Constitution, has the duty to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

In recognition of the above, this bill seeks to mandate the Department of Health to provide at least one health worker in every barangay. It also seeks to bestow honorarium and other benefits in acknowledgement of the services these health workers render to the people.

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

LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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8 AUG -5 11:55

S E N A T E



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AN ACT
MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE
(1) HEALTH WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY, INCREASING THEIR SALARIES
AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Provision of Barangay Health Worker. - There shall be provided at least one (1) health worker in every barangay throughout the county. Such health worker shall be under the control and supervision of the Department of Health in close coordination with the Local Government Health Officer. As far as practicable, the barangay health worker to be employed must be living in the barangay where he/she is to be assigned, or within the city or municipality in which the barangay is to be found.

SEC. 2. Salary Grade. - The barangay health worker shall receive monthly salary and benefits equivalent to a salary grade not lower than SG 10 pursuant to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 6758 or the Salary Standardization Law of 1989; Provided, that they have acquired the necessary civil service eligibility. In addition, the barangay health worker shall be entitled to a Christmas bonus equivalent to their one (1) month salary, and all the benefits granted to other barangay employees within their city or municipality, including the incentives and benefits under Republic Act No. 7883 otherwise known as the Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 3995.

SEC. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulation. - The Department of Health shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. Appropriation. - The sum of Twenty Million pesos (Php20, 000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the initial implementation of this Act. Such amount as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included and integrated in the General Appropriations Act as part of the budget of the Department of Health.

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,