

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

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 12 A8:54

SENATE
S.B. No. 1139

RECEIVED BY: _____

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Children of firefighters are often faced with an uncertain future as their fathers/mothers take on the task of saving life and property of another during fire and other emergencies.

This proposed measure seeks to provide the firefighter some security in the event that he/she dies in the line of duty or of an occupation-related illness by providing educational benefits to their minor orphaned children.

Benefits will include tuition and a reasonable allowance for books, school supplies, transportation, clothing and food.

With this bill, it is hoped that our firefighters will be given additional incentives and security to carry out effectively the demands of their profession.


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AN ACT
ENSURING THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS OF THE MINOR CHILDREN OF
FIREFIGHTERS WHO ARE KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY OR
OF OCCUPATION-RELATED ILLNESS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Coverage.** – This Act shall cover minor children whose firefighter
2 father and/or mother was/were killed in the line of duty or of occupation-related illness
3 during or prior to approval of this Act provided said children are still minors upon the
4 approval hereof.

5 Beneficiaries who reach the age of majority and remains unmarried while
6 enjoying the benefits of this Act but have not completed their secondary education shall
7 continue to be entitled to the benefits until they complete secondary school.

8 **SECTION 2. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act,

9 a. "Line of duty" means:

10 1. Responding or returning from a call of the department for a fire, or
11 emergency or training drill; or

12 2. Similar service in another municipality or city to which the department
13 has been called for firefighting or emergency purposes.

14 b. "Occupation-related illness" means a disease that directly arises out of, and
15 in the course of service, including a heart injury or symptomatic disease.

16 c. "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local
17 Government;

18 d. "DILG" means the Department of the Interior and Local Government
19

20 **SECTION 3. Educational Benefits for Orphaned Minor Children** – Minor
21 children of firefighters, who were killed in the line of duty or dies of an occupation-
22 related illness shall be entitled to educational benefits from the time they are orphaned
23 up to their completion of their secondary education.

1 The benefits shall include tuition fees, reasonable allowances for books, school
2 supplies, transportation, clothing and food.

3 **SECTION 4. *Administration of the Education Benefits System.*** – The
4 Secretary of the DILG or the head of the agency concerned shall designate the officer
5 who shall administer the educational benefit system for the orphaned minor children
6 covered under this Act.

7 The Secretary shall designate the office which shall administer the educational
8 benefit system for the orphaned minor children of firefighters and promulgate rules and
9 regulations thereof.

10 **SECTION 5. *Funds for Educational Benefits.*** – There is hereby authorized to
11 be appropriated, out of any funds in the National Treasury nor otherwise appropriated,
12 the amount of Four Million pesos (P4,000,000.000 for the educational benefits of
13 orphaned minor children covered under this Act for the initial year of operation.
14 *Thereafter, the amount required for said educational benefits shall be included in the*
15 *annual appropriations of the concerned agency.*

16 **SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary, in
17 coordination with other related agencies and bureaus, shall promulgate and implement
18 rules and regulations within ninety days following the approval of this Act.

19 **SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and
20 regulations or part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
21 repealed or modified accordingly.

22 **SECTION 8. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect 15 days after its complete
23 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

24 Approved,