

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

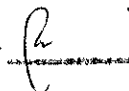
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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SENATE

S. JT. RES. NO. 5

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

JOINT RESOLUTION
INCREASING THE SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE OF ALL OFFICERS AND ENLISTED PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) FROM NINETY PESOS (P90.00) TO ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY PESOS (P150.00) PER DAY

Whereas, the 1987 Constitution expressly declares that: "The Armed Forces (AFP) is the protector of the people and the State. Its goal is to secure the sovereignty of the State and the integrity of the national territory";

Whereas, the Constitution further provides that: "Professionalism in the armed forces and adequate remuneration and benefits of its members shall be a prime concern of the State";

Whereas, despite of the aforementioned lofty constitutional precepts, our soldiers receive measly salaries, inadequate allowances and insufficient benefits and are among the lowest paid in the Government;

Whereas, a case in point is the Subsistence Allowance they receive: the officers and enlisted personnel of the AFP receive Subsistence Allowance of ninety (P90.00) per day, a very small amount by any standard;

Whereas, it is very clear that the said amount can hardly support the subsistence of the family of soldiers as the National Statistics Office (NSO) stated officially that monthly cost of living for a family of five (5) should be at least thirteen thousand *two* hundred pesos (P13,200.00) in order to recoup a decent living;

Whereas, it is high time that we recognize and honor the very vital role played by officers and members of the AFP by looking after their welfare and providing them with decent and adequate compensation as well as reasonable and substantial benefits;

Whereas, in line with the declared policy of the State to promote professionalism in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and make adequate remuneration and benefits of its members as a prime concern of the State, this joint resolution is a step in this direction because it seeks to increase the Subsistence Allowance of soldiers from ninety pesos (P90.00) to one hundred and fifty pesos (P150.00) per day. Now, therefore, be it:

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled, to increase the subsistence allowance of all officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) from Ninety Pesos (P90.00) to One hundred and Fifty Pesos (P150.00) per day.

RESOLVED FURTHER, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, That the Department of National Defense (DND) in coordination with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) shall promulgate and immediately issue the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Resolution, and in order to carry out its proper implementation, such amount as may be necessary shall be charged against the savings of the Department of National Defense (DND) for the current year. Thereafter, the National Government shall appropriate annually and include in the General Appropriations Act the amount corresponding to the total annual cost of the increase in Subsistence Allowance.

Adopted,


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator