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

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S. B. No. 1754

reformed by

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Hazard pay means additional pay for performing hazardous duty or work involving physical hardship. Work duty that causes extreme physical discomfort and distress which is not adequately alleviated by protective devices is deemed to impose a physical hardship.

It is evident that the hazardous condition attributable to a prisoner while incarcerated is not extinguished when the same prisoner is released on parole and subsequently supervised and counseled by a Parole Officer.

In this regard, Corrections Officers and Parole Officers should be entitled to hazard pay since they are in constant contact with convicted and hardened criminals whom they supervise and investigate.

Corrections Officers and Parole Officers go to far-flung barrios infested with NPAs, in cramped informal settler areas where recidivists frequent, and across raging seas and mountains in order to get the most reliable information required in assessing the potential of an applicant to be granted the privilege of pardon, probation or parole.

The environment and circumstances frequented by these officers are without doubt, hazardous and constitute arduous activities which should at least entitle them to a hazard pay.

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The proposed legislation seeks to entitle Corrections and Parole Officers to a hazard pay calculated at the rate of the officer's regular wage plus ten percent (10%) for all periods he is on such duty.<sup>1</sup>

an MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the third regular session of the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress.

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## AN ACT PROVIDING HAZARDOUS PAY TO PAROLE OFFICERS WHO PERFORM THE DUTY OF SUPERVISING AND COUNSELING PAROLEES

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

- 4 SECTION 1. *Title.* This Act shall be known as the "Parole Officers and 5 Corrections Hazardous Pay Act."
- SECTION 2. *In-duty Hazardous Pay* A corrections officer or a parole officer or any employee of the government who performs the duty of guarding prisoners or supervising or counseling parolees shall be entitled to hazardous pay calculated at the rate of his or her regular wage plus ten percent (10%) for all periods he or she is on such duty.

  The differential shall be applicable only during time of exposure.
  - SECTION 3. Field Duty Hazardous Pay A correction officer or a parole officer who performs a duty outside of the direct supervision of the Bureau of Corrections, that if performance by another law enforcement or public safety officer would entitle such officer to hazardous pay, shall be entitled to hazardous pay calculated at the rate of his or her regular wage plus ten percent (10%) for all periods he or she is on such duty. The differential shall be applicable only during time of exposure.
- SECTION. 4. Appropriations. To carry out the provisions of this Act, such amount as hereby necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

- SECTION 5. Separability Clause. If any provision or part of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
- SECTION 6. Repealing Clause. Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.
- 27 SECTION 7. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days 28 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.