

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 JUL -1 P5:13

SENATE

S. B. No. 247

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is said that health is wealth. And, anyone who has been under prolonged and costly medication, or one whose physical activities have been significantly hampered because of ill-health knows this too well. In fact, being physically healthy is usually a prerequisite to being happy and productive. As English philosopher John Locke once said "*a sound mind in a sound body is a short but full description of a happy man.*"

Another related and often quoted idiom is that "*an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure*", and perhaps the cheapest but most effective measure of prevention is discipline and physical exercise. In fact, there are those who believe that maintenance and promotion of a healthy lifestyle is not only to be preferred, but a duty to be fulfilled.

Perhaps one profession where health and physical fitness is a primordial consideration is that of our men and women in uniform – our policemen and soldiers. It is in their hands that the preservation of peace and order and the protection of our national security are laid upon. It is they who risk their lives daily so that others may live peacefully, safe from harm.

Thus, it is but reasonable that the State ensures that our military and police are healthy and physically fit. It is when they are healthy and fit that they can do their duties most effectively. However, it is not uncommon to see our police and military camps without recreational and health facilities. It is time that we address this need to provide basic facilities and programs for them.

This bill seeks to exactly do that by providing a lump sum funding to provide and improve the recreational infrastructures and health facilities of military and police camps around the country. This bill also provides the authority as well as encourages the local government units to support the Personnel Health and Wellness Development Plan of the military and police camps within their jurisdiction. This bill further allows and encourages private sector support by giving them appropriate tax incentives.

It is believed that with those infrastructures and facilities in place, it will not only benefit the uniformed personnel in those camps, but also the families that are living with them, and eventually the public in general in certain occasions.

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

SEN. ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

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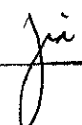


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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) AND THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) PERSONNEL THROUGH THE ENHANCEMENT OF RECREATIONAL AND HEALTH FACILITIES IN THE POLICE AND MILITARY CAMPS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. Title. This act shall be known as the "Uniformed Personnel Health and Wellness Development Act of 2013"

Section 2. Declaration of Policy.- Pursuant to the Constitutional mandate under Section 15, Article II to protect and promote the right to health of the people and to instill health consciousness among them, it is thereby declared a policy of the State to address the welfare and development of uniformed personnel by improving the recreational infrastructures and health facilities in the military and police camps and encouraging health and wellness programs within the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police In so doing, promoting a healthier lifestyle among our uniformed personnel, enhance their performance in doing their roles in the preservation of peace and order and protection of our national security.

Section 3. Uniformed Personnel Health and Wellness Development Plan. The AFP and the PNP shall ensure that the military and police camps shall respectively develop and improve their recreational infrastructure and health facilities. Pursuant to this, the AFP and PNP shall give appropriate emphasis on and priority to infrastructure projects that will benefit the most number of their personnel. The infrastructures must provide recreational venues and respond to the physical fitness needs of the AFP and PNP.

Section 4. Uniformed Personnel Health and Wellness Development Fund.- The amount of TWO BILLION PESOS (PhP 2,000,000,000.00) each year for a period of five (5) years is hereby set aside to finance the Uniformed Personnel Health and Wellness Development Fund and broken down as follows:

a. **AFP Health and Wellness Development Fund.** - To finance the recreational needs and health facilities of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the sum of ONE BILLION PESOS (PhP 1,000,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the AFP to be used exclusively for improving the recreational infrastructures and health facilities of its military camps nationwide.

b. **PNP Health and Wellness Development Fund.** To finance the recreational needs and health facilities of the Philippine National Police, the sum of ONE BILLION PESOS (PhP 1,000,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the PNP to be used exclusively for improving the recreational infrastructures and health facilities of its police camps nationwide.

Section 5. Prerequisite for the Release of Funds. The AFP and the PNP shall prepare and submit to the Department of National Defense (DND) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), respectively, a Personnel Health and Wellness Development Plan taking the foregoing into consideration within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act

Section 6. Authority of Local Government Units. – Notwithstanding any law or executive issuances to the contrary, this Act authorizes all local government units to augment the funding and/or provide any form of support to the Personnel Health and Wellness Development Plans of the AFP and/or PNP camps within their jurisdiction.

Section 7. Private Sector Donations. – Exclusively for the purpose of augmenting the funding or supporting the realization of their respective Personnel Health and Wellness Development Plans, the PNP and the AFP are hereby authorized to accept donations subject to auditing procedures of the Commission on Audit.

Donations of real and personal properties of all kinds from private persons shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deductions from the gross income of the donor, in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended: *Provided*, that the allowable deductions shall be equivalent to 200 percent of the value of such donation.

Section 8. Appropriations. The amount of TWO BILLION PESOS (P2,000,000,000) each year for a period of five years is hereby appropriated for the implementation of this Act. Thereafter, such amounts as may be deemed necessary to fulfill the letter and intent of this Act shall be integrated in the appropriations of the AFP and the PNP in the General Appropriations Act.

Section 9. Separability clause. - If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 10. Repealing clause. - All laws, presidential decrees and executive orders contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 11.- Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,