

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



Senate
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13 SEP 16 P3:30

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1684

RECEIVED

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Since the enactment of the Local Government Code of 1991, the value of the peso *vis-a-vis* the dollar, has fallen by staggering proportions, particularly in the aftermath of the 1997 Asian financial crisis. This has resulted in the gross weakening of the purchasing power of the peso, which is reason enough to reassess the reckoning given to barangay officials.

The basis of amounts stipulated in Section 393 of the Local Government Code needs to be amended so that the benefits intended for barangay officials can be adjusted to present level, and reflect the original intention of the law.

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


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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AN ACT

INCREASING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, CREATING A NATIONAL BARANGAY BENEFITS AUGMENTATION FUND, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 393 of Republic Act No. 7160. is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 393. Benefits of Barangay Officials. - (a) Barangay Officials, including barangay tanods and members of the lupong tagapamayapa, shall received honoraria, allowances and such other emoluments as may be authorized by law or barangay, municipal or city ordinance in accordance with the provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than [One thousand pesos (P1,000.00)] **TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00)** per month for the punong barangay and [Six hundred pesos (P600.00)] **ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED PESOS (P1,800.00)** per month for the sangguniang barangay members, barangay treasurer and barangay secretary: *Provided, however,* That the annual appropriations for personal services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under Title Five, Book 11 of this Code.

"(b) The punong barangay, the sangguniang barangay members, the barangay treasurer, and the barangay secretary, shall, also:

- (1) Be entitled to Christmas bonus of at least [One Thousand pesos (P1,000.00)] **TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00)** each, the funds for which shall be taken from the general fund of the barangay or from such other funds appropriated by the national government for the purpose;
- (2) Be entitled, during their incumbency to insurance coverage which shall include, but shall not limit to temporary and permanent disability, double indemnity, accident insurance, death and burial benefits, in accordance with Republic Act Numbered sixty-nine hundred forty-two (Republic Act No.

6942), entitled "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor";

- (3) Be entitled to free medical care including subsistence, medicines, and medical attendance in any government hospital or institution: Provided, That such hospital care shall include surgery or surgical expenses, medicines, x-rays, laboratory fees and other hospital expenses.

"In case of extreme urgency where there is no available government hospital or institution, the barangay official concerned may submit himself for immediate medical attendance to the nearest private clinic, hospital or institution and the expense not exceeding [Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00)] **TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00)** that may be incurred therein shall be chargeable against the funds of the barangay concerned;

- (4) Be exempted during their incumbency from paying tuition and matriculation fees for their legitimate dependent children attending state colleges or universities. He may likewise avail of such educational benefits in a state college or University located within the province/city to which the barangay belongs; and

- (5) Be entitled to appropriate civil service eligibility on the basis of the number of years of service to the barangay, pursuant to the rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission.

"(c) Elective barangay officials shall have preference in appointments to any government position or in any government-owned or controlled corporations, including their subsidiaries, after their tenure of office, subject to the requisite qualifications and the provisions of the immediately preceding paragraph; and

"(d) All duly appointed members of the barangay tanod brigades, or their equivalent, which shall number not more than twenty (20) in each barangay, shall be granted **A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF NOT LESS THAN SIX HUNDRED PESOS (P600.00)** and insurance or other benefits during their incumbency, chargeable to the barangay or the city or municipal government to which the barangay belongs."

SEC. 2. National Barangay Benefits Augmentation Fund. - There is hereby created a National Barangay Benefits Augmentation Fund (NBBAF) which shall be used to augment existing allocation of allowance and honoraria of barangay officials and workers provided for this Act.

The Oversight Committee on Devolution shall administer and ensure the appropriate disbursement of the fund. The National Barangay Operations Office of the Department of Interior and Local Government shall Act as the Secretariat of the Oversight Committee on Devolution and assist the Committee in the proper administration of the fund. The fund shall be released to the concerned barangays by the Department of Budget and management, upon adoption of a resolution by the Committee directing the department to implement the same.

SEC. 3. *Funding.* - All barangays shall contribute two percent (2%) of their income to the National Barangays Benefits Augmentation Fund.

SEC. 4. *Rules and Regulations.* The Oversight Committee on Devolution shall, within six (6) months of effectivity of this Act, shall formulate and issue the appropriate rules and regulations necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,