

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1959

RECEIVED BY: *Ji*

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

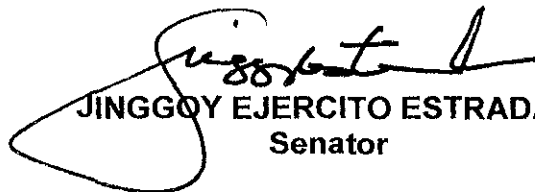
It is the duty of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them, as enshrined in Article 11, Section 15 of the Constitution.

There are thousands of people in the country today, especially those who live in the countryside, who cannot avail of the proper medical attention due to lack of adequate medical facilities and health personnel in their respective localities.

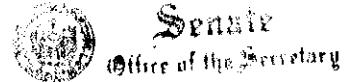
At present, an insignificant number of our countrymen volunteer their services in the countryside assisting health personnel in their day-to-day dealings with the health needs of the people in the barangays. However, their number proves inadequate to meet the medical requirements of our barangay folk.

In response to this felt need, this bill seeks to mandate the Department of Health to provide at least one health worker in every barangay. It is also the intention of the bill to provide barangay health workers honorarium and other benefits in recognition of their services rendered in the service of the people.

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

  
JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE (1) HEALTH WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY, INCREASING THEIR SALARIES AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

**SECTION 1. *Provision of Barangay Health Worker.*** – There shall be provided at least one (1) health worker in every barangay throughout the county. Such health worker shall be under the control and supervision of the Department of Health in close coordination with the Local Government Health Officer. As far as practicable, the barangay health worker to be employed must be living in the barangay where he/she is to be assigned, or within the city or municipality in which the barangay is to be found.

**SEC. 2. *Salary Grade.*** – The barangay health worker shall receive monthly salary and benefits equivalent to a salary grade not lower than SG 10 pursuant to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 6758 or the Salary Standardization Law of 1989; *Provided*, that they have acquired the necessary civil service eligibility. In addition, the barangay health worker shall be entitled to a Christmas bonus equivalent to their one (1) month salary, and all the benefits granted to other barangay employees within their city or municipality, including the incentives and benefits under Republic Act No. 7883 otherwise known as the Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995.

**SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.*** – The Department of Health shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 4. *Appropriation.*** – The sum of Twenty Million pesos (Php20,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the initial implementation of this Act. Such amount as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included and integrated in the General Appropriations Act as part of the budget of the Department of Health.

**SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 6. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*