



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

'18 FEB 21 P12 :56

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE
S. B. No. 1700

Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

**AN ACT GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO ALL PUBLIC
PROSECUTORS, ASSOCIATE PROSECUTION ATTORNEYS,
AND PROSECUTION ATTORNEYS DURING THEIR
INCUMBENCY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Public prosecutors play a vital and indispensable role in the Philippine criminal justice system. Apart from prosecuting a case, they handle inquests and investigations and decide in the first instance whether a complaint should be brought to court. In the course of their duties, they come face to face with persons charged with offenses ranging from the likes of malicious mischief to murder. They carry the State's burden to ensure that justice is done; that those who break the law are made to answer for their crimes. In discharging this burden, it is inevitable that public prosecutors committed to their duties invite the ire of those whom they must investigate or prosecute. Tragic examples of public prosecutors being ambushed and gunned down abound; those that survive attacks remain either injured or traumatized; and numerous public prosecutors throughout the country can attest to having been threatened with physical harm at least once in the course of their careers.

We have granted hazard pay to various government personnel whose work entails perils to life and limb, such as our soldiers and law-enforcement agents, because of the nature of their functions. For the same reason, the perils that our public prosecutors face in performing their functions justify the grant of hazard pay. This bill proposes a hazard pay equivalent to twenty-five percent (25%) of their monthly basic salary.

While hazard pay will not in and of itself address the dangers that our public prosecutors face, it is both a modest step towards protecting their independence and a recognition of their invaluable contribution to the administration of justice.

For the foregoing reasons, prompt passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

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

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Hazard Pay
2 for Public Prosecutors Act."
3

4 **Sec. 2. Grant of Hazard Pay.** All public prosecutors, including
5 associate prosecution attorneys and prosecution attorneys of the National
6 Prosecution Service, shall be granted a monthly hazard pay during their
7 incumbency in an amount equivalent to twenty-five percent (25%) of
8 their basic monthly salary, as determined by their salary grade.
9

10 **Sec. 3. Tax Exemption and Non-Diminution of Benefits.** The
11 hazard pay for public prosecutors shall not be subject to tax and nothing
12 in this Act shall be construed to diminish, in any manner, any benefit
13 granted by existing laws, rules and regulations, local ordinances, and
14 other issuances especially favorable to duly-appointed public
15 prosecutors and associate prosecution attorneys.
16

17 **Sec. 4. Appropriations.** The amount necessary for the initial
18 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the available
19 appropriations of the National Prosecution Service of the Department of
20 Justice under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such
21 amounts as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this
22 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1 **Sec. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** The Department of
2 Budget and Management shall, in consultation with the Department of
3 Justice shall, within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, issue
4 the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.
5

6 **Sec. 6. *Separability Clause.*** Should any provision of this Act be
7 declared invalid, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and
8 subsisting.
9

10 **Sec. 7. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, executive orders,
11 administrative orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, that are
12 inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed, or modified
13 accordingly.
14

15 **Sec. 8. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
16 days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,