EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session



19 JUL -8 P2:05

SENATE S.B. No. 252

RECEIVED BY:



Introduced by SENATOR LACSON

AN ACT

GRANTING ADDITIONAL INSURANCE BENEFITS TO BARANGAY CHAIRMEN, PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE PAYMENT OF ITS PREMIUMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes the role of *punong barangay* or barangay chairmen as the chief executive of the Barangay government mandated to exercise efficient, effective and economical governance and maintain peace and order for the general welfare of its barangay constituents.

Inherent to the roles of *punong barangay* are to keep peace by organizing foot patrols, arbitrate in differences between community members, assist in the conduct of elections, and facilitate the evacuation of communities in disaster-hit areas brought by natural and man-made calamities.

In the conduct of these functions, especially during emergencies and calamities, barangay chief executives are the front-liners, putting their lives at risk in the service of their respective constituents.

However, the State recognizes that the mandated duties of the barangay chairmen are not commensurate to their meager honoraria, allowances and other emoluments. Similarly, barangay chief executives are not entitled with hazard duty pay.

The associated risks of their functions also place higher premium to their insurance coverage. Most importantly, the present insurance benefits provided to all government officials, including all *punong barangay*, pursuant to Republic Act. No. 8291 (An Act Amending Presidential Decree 1146 as amended, expanding and increasing the coverage and benefits of Government Services and Insurance System (GSIS), instituting reforms therein, and for other purposes) is construed inadequate with regard to the payment of medical, death and burial expenses.

Hence, this bill seeks to provide additional insurance benefits to barangay chief executives over and above what they are currently receiving from GSIS in recognition of their contribution to the community and in advancing their welfare as public servants.

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

PANFILO M. LACSON Senator

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Additional

SEC. 2. Additional Insurance Benefits for Barangay Captains. – In addition to the insurance benefits given to the Barangay Captains by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) under Republic Act No. 8291, a term insurance coverage to all barangay captains providing the following benefits shall

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be granted:

1. Death Benefits

P200,000.00

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(a) due to assassination or ambush
(b) due to accidents and other simil

Barangay Captains' Insurance Act of 2019".

(b) due to accidents and other similar circumstances while in the discharge of their official functions

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2. Burial Expenses

P 50,000.00

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3. Reimbursement of Actual Medical

Expenses not to exceed P100,000.00 on ambushes, attempted assassinations not resulting in death, accidents and other similar circumstances while in the discharge of their official functions

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SEC. 3. *Disqualification from benefits.* - No benefits shall be given to any barangay captain or his/her beneficiaries when the injury, sickness or death was occasioned or caused by any of the following:

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- (a) habitual drunkenness or intoxication;
- (b) willful intention to injure or kill oneself;
- (c) notorious negligence;
- (d) unauthorized absence or abandonment of office for at least one (1) month prior to death or accident.

- **SEC. 4.** Actuarial Study. The GSIS shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, conduct an actuarial study to determine the premiums to be paid corresponding to the benefits to be granted to barangay captains in accordance with the schedule provided in Section 2.
- **SEC. 5.** *Appropriation.* The National Government shall appropriate annually and include in the General Appropriations Act an amount corresponding to the total annual insurance premiums of the barangay captains based on the actuarial study under Section 4 hereof.
- **SEC. 6.** *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The GSIS, in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government, shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.
- **SEC. 7.** *Separability Clause.* If for any reason any provision or section of this Act is declared unconstitutional, such portions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.
- **SEC. 8.** *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- **SEC.** 9. *Effectivity*. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,28