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SENATE  
Senate Bill No. 253

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Introduced by **SENATOR LACSON**

**AN ACT  
UPGRADING THE BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES OF  
BARANGAY TANOD MEMBERS WHO HAVE RENDERED AT  
LEAST ONE YEAR OF SERVICE IN THE BARANGAY  
GOVERNMENT**

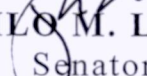
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Unknown to many, the maintenance of local peace and order and the promotion of public safety in every nook and corner of our society rests primarily not with the local police, but rather, with a handful of men roaming each and every barangay in the country particularly at night, the Barangay Tanods. These men composed mainly of civilian volunteers, are armed not with a gun but with night sticks, are walking in groups of four (4) to six (6) men instead of riding in patrol cars in protecting their respective areas of jurisdiction and responding to the call of anyone when the need for it arises.

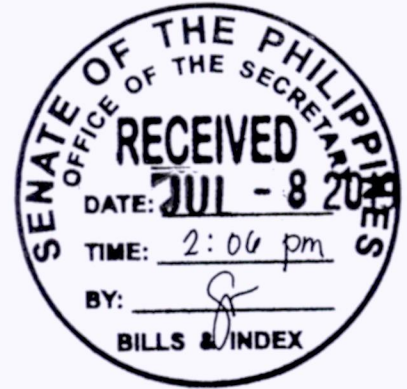
Through the years, the plight of these Barangay Tanods are often neglected. Although they are given some benefits for the task they perform, it is a fact that such benefits are not commensurate with the risk they are encountering while they are on duty. Thus, this proposed measure seeks to remedy the sad plight of our Barangay Tanods.

The proposed legislative measure seeks to increase the benefits presently received by our Barangay Tanods like Christmas Bonus equivalent to one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of what the present Punong Barangay is receiving; insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourth ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of what the Punong Barangay is receiving; free legal services from government lawyers for criminal or civil cases filed against them in the performance of their duties; and preference in the availment of and or membership in barangay livelihood and development projects.

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

  
**PANFILO M. LACSON**  
Senator

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



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**AN ACT**  
**UPGRADING THE BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES OF**  
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**LEAST ONE YEAR OF SERVICE IN THE BARANGAY**  
**GOVERNMENT**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** The State recognizes the “Barangay Tanod”, duly  
2 created under the provision of the Local Government Code, as an  
3 indispensable instrument in barangay government, particularly in the  
4 latter's role in the maintenance and protection of peace and security  
5 and the promotion of public safety within the barangay.

6

7           **SECTION 2.** As used herein, a Barangay Tanod, means a  
8 brigade or body composed of civilian volunteers, duly created at the  
9 barangay level, to assist the barangay officials in the effective  
10 exercises of law enforcement for the maintenance of peace and order  
11 and the promotion of public safety.

12           Barangay Tanod members refer to civilian volunteers, duly  
13 appointed by the Sangguniang Barangay, irrespective of the number  
14 thereof.

1           **SECTION 3.** Without in any way diminishing the benefits and  
2 privileges already granted by the Local Government and other related  
3 laws, a member of the Barangay Tanod who has rendered continuous  
4 service for at least one (1) year in any barangay shall, during his  
5 incumbency, be entitled to the following:

6           (a) Christmas bonus equivalent to at least one half (1/2) of  
7 what the Punong Barangay is receiving, as mandated by  
8 law or ordinance;

9           (b) An insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourths (3/4) of  
10 that received by the Punong Barangay, in accordance with  
11 Republic Act Sixty-Nine Forty-Two (RA 6942) otherwise  
12 known as "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits Of  
13 Local Government Officials and Providing Funds  
14 Therefor" or the amount provided for under Section 393  
15 (d) of the Local Government Code, whichever is higher;

16           (c) Free legal services from government lawyers for criminal  
17 and civil cases filed against him, arising from acts  
18 committed in the performance of his duties. Provided, that  
19 such legal services shall continue, even after the term of  
20 the Barangay Tanod member as long as the subject of the  
21 cases filed against him arises from acts committed in the  
22 performance of his duties;

23           (d) Preference in the availment of and/or membership in  
24 barangay livelihood and development projects, whether  
25 initiated by the National Government or the local  
26 government units (LGUs).

1           **SECTION 4.** A Barangay Tanod member who is yet to render  
2 service as such, to any barangay for a period of one (1) year shall  
3 receive the benefits and privileges as mandated by the Local  
4 Government Code.

5  
6           **SECTION 5.** A Barangay Tanod, once appointed, shall not be  
7 removed as such nor his services be terminated, except for causes  
8 enumerated by the barangay resolution creating the Barangay Tanod,  
9 which shall take into consideration the integrity, responsibility and  
10 accountability in barangay service of the barangay tanod concerned.  
11 The decision to remove a Barangay Tanod for cause shall rest upon the  
12 decision of the Sangguniang Barangay concerned.

13  
14           **SECTION 6.** Such sums, as may be necessary for the  
15 implementation of the provision of this Act, are hereby authorized to  
16 be appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not  
17 otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, the amount needed to implement  
18 this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the Department of  
19 Interior and Local Government (DILG) under the General  
20 Appropriations Act (GAA).

21  
22           **SECTION 7.** All general and special laws, acts, city or  
23 municipal ordinances, executive orders, proclamations and  
24 administrative regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with  
25 any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
26 accordingly.

1           **SECTION 8.** The Department of Interior and Local Government  
2 shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

3

4           **SECTION 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen days after the  
5 completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two  
6 (2) newspaper of general circulation.

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8           *Approved,*

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