EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session



'19 JUL 15 A10:05

SENATE

s. No. 465

RECUNED OF

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

AN ACT

AMENDING BOOK 3, TITLE 5, ARTICLE 13, SECTION 483 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, AS AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The position of provincial, city or municipal social welfare and development officer (SWDO) is a crucial one. Said Officer provides technical assistance and support to either the governor or the mayor in carrying out various measures to ensure the delivery of basic services and provisions of adequate facilities relative to social welfare and development services as provided for in the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended.

As head of the office on social welfare and development services, the SWDO develops and implements, upon approval by the governor or mayor, plans and strategies pertaining to the LGUs social welfare programs and projects. The officer also identifies the basic needs of the needy, the disadvantaged and the impoverished and develops and implements appropriate measures to alleviate their problems. The SWDO likewise provides relief and appropriate crisis intervention for victims of abuse an exploitation by being in the frontline of service delivery, particularly those which have to do with immediate relief and assistance during the aftermath of natural man-made disasters and calamities.

Thus, there is an urgent need to professionalize the delivery of various basic social services by making the qualifications of these local social welfare and development officers equivalent and comparable with their counterparts in the national government. Setting certain parameters as to who would qualify as social welfare and development officers and making mandatory their appointment in local governments are steps in the right direction.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

Section 1. Section 483, Article 13, Title 5, Book 3, of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as The Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 483. Qualifications, Powers and Duties — (a) No person shall be appointed social welfare and development officers unless he/SHE is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the local government unit concerned, of good moral character [,] AND a duly licensed social worker [or a holder of college degree preferably in sociology or any other related course from a recognized college or university, and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent]. He/SHE must have acquired experience in the practice of social work for at least five (5) years in the case of provincial or city social welfare and development officer, and development officer.

1	The appointment of a social welfare and development officer is
2	mandatory for the provincial, [and] city [,] and [optional for] municipal
3	government."
4	
5	Sec. 2. Separability Clause If any provision of this Act is declared
6	unconstitutional or the application thereof to any person, circumstance or transaction
7	is held invalid, the validity of the remaining provisions of this Act or the applicability
8	of such provisions to other persons, circumstances or transactions shall not be affected
9	thereby.
10	Sec. 3. Repealing Clause The provisions of all other laws, decrees, orders,
11	rules or regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed
12	accordingly.
13	
14	Sec. 4. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication
15	in the Official Gazette and in two (2) newspapers of national circulation.
16	
17	
18	Approved,