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

SENATE

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S. No. <u>675</u>

Sture of the Secretary

- P-2 :19

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

AN ACT

INCREASING THE RECRUITMENT QUOTA REQUIREMENT OF FEMALE PNP OFFICERS, AMENDING SECTION 58 OF REPUBLIC ACT 8551, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Women bring unique and valuable professional qualities to law enforcement. An increase in female representation in our country's police forces may help improve our police force's strategies in preventing violations and abuses of women's rights. With sexual assault or child protection cases, for example, the victim may want to talk to a female officer. The challenge, however, is there is currently a lack of female officers in the Philippine National Police (PNP). According to Senior Superintendent Bernard Banac, PNP Spokesperson, 83.4 percent of the 180,767 PNP uniformed personnel are male, and the remaining 16.6 percent, female. With this data, the PNP is clearly dominated by men.

This bill seeks to address the current loopholes in the country's criminal justice system in regards gender roles and functions. This bill amends Section 58 of RA 8551 or the Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998 to increase the annual recruitment quota for women in the PNP to guarantee the adequacy of policewomen who shall man the woman and children protections

desks in police precincts. This bill seeks to reserve 15 percent of PNP's annual recruitment, training, and education quota for women, and that the recruitment quota for women shall be increased to 20 percent thereafter. It is hoped that through this bill, women will be given greater opportunity to join the police force and that the number of female officers may be pushed up over time.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this important piece of legislation is earnestly sought.

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

Section 1. Section 58 of Republic Act No. 8551, otherwise known as the "Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998", is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 58. *Prioritization of Women for Recruitment.* – Within the next five
(5) years, the PNP shall prioritize the recruitment and training of women who
shall serve in the women's desk. Pursuant to this requirement, the PNP shall
reserve fifteen percent (15%) of its annual recruitment training and education
quota for women, provided that the recruitment quota for women shall be
increased to twenty percent (20%) five (5) years thereafter.

10Sec. 2. The National Police Commission in coordination with the Philippine11National Police and the Department of Interior and Local Government, shall12promulgate rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

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- Such rules and regulations shall take effect upon their publication in three (3)
 newspapers of general circulation.
- Sec. 3. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.
- 6 Sec. 4. All laws, presidential decrees, letters of instructions, executive 7 orders, rules and regulations insofar as they are inconsistent with this Act, are 8 hereby repealed or amended as the case may be.
- 9 Sec. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in 10 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
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- 12 Approved,

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