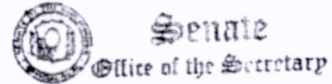


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

'19 AUG -6 P3:22

S. No. 871

RECEIVED BY. _____

Introduced by SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

AN ACT

REMOVING HEIGHT AS QUALIFICATION FOR PERSONNEL, OFFICERS OR MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION, BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY, AND BUREAU OF CORRECTION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8551, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9263 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10575

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Filipinos are known for being hospitable, friendly, industrious and hard working. However, Filipinos are also known to be vertically-challenged; the second shortest race in Southeast Asia. Despite our height, we are known to accomplish many remarkable things.

Unfortunately, applicants of PNP, BFP, BJMP and BuCor are being required to be of certain height before being appointed as members, officers or personnel of the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), and Bureau of Correction (BuCor). Notwithstanding having passed the qualification examinations for applicants, one cannot be a member of the aforementioned bureaus if he stands below 1.62 meters for male and 1.57 meters for female. This rigid height requirement remains to be an unavoidable hindrance for Filipinos who wants to join the force because of our inherent

physiological built. Regardless of the wit and high intelligent quotient of an applicant, he/she cannot be accepted without the required height. Meanwhile, the Armed Forces of the Philippines has relaxed their height requirement since 2010 to allow the admission of intellectually and physically qualified applicant to join their force.

This proposed bill seeks to ensure that every Filipino, regardless of height, will be given opportunity to be a member of the PNP, BFP, BJMP, and BuCor and have the chance to serve and protect our country and its citizens.

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


RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled.

1 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "PNP, BFP, BJMP and BuCor Height
2 Equality Act."

3 Sec. 2. No height requirement shall be imposed to applicants for officers or
4 members of the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP),
5 Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) and Bureau of Correction (BuCor).

6 Sec. 3. Pursuant to Section 2 of this Act, Section 30 of Republic Act No. 6875,
7 as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

8 "Sec. 30. *General qualifications for appointment.* – No person
9 shall be appointed as officer or member of the PNP unless he
10 or she possesses the following minimum qualifications:

11 a) xxx xxx xxx

12

13 xxx xxx xxx

14

15 h) [~~Must be at least one meter and sixty two~~

1 centimeters (1.62 m.) in height for male and one
2 meter and fifty seven centimeters (1.57 m.) for
3 female;]

4
5 xxx xxx xxx."

6 Sec. 4. Pursuant to Section 2 of this Act, Section 15 of Republic Act No. 8551
7 is hereby amended as follows:

8 "Sec. 15. *Waivers for initial appointment to the PNP.* – The
9 age, [height,] weight, and educational requirements for initial
10 appointment to the PNP may be waived only when the
11 number of qualified applicants fall below the minimum annual
12 quota: *Provided,* That an applicant shall not be below twenty
13 (20) nor over thirty-five (35) years of age: *Provided,*
14 *further,* That any applicant not meeting the weight
15 requirement shall be given reasonable time but not exceeding
16 six (6) months within which to comply with the said
17 requirement: *Provided, furthermore,* That only applicants who
18 have finished second year college or have earned at least
19 seventy-two (72) collegiate units leading to a bachelor's
20 decree shall be eligible for appointment: *Provided,*
21 *furthermore,* That anybody who will enter the service without
22 a baccalaureate degree shall be given a maximum of four (4)
23 years to obtain the required educational
24 qualification[: ~~*Provided, finally,* That a waiver for height~~
25 ~~requirement shall be automatically granted to applicants~~
26 ~~belonging to the cultural communities]."~~

27
28 Sec. 5. Pursuant to Section 2 of this Act, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 8551
29 is hereby amended as follows:

30 "Sec. 16. *Selection criteria under the waiver program.* – The
31 selection of applicants under the Waiver Program shall be

1 subject to the following minimum criteria:

2 a) xxx xxx xxx

3 b) The requirements shall be waived in the following order: (a)
4 age, ~~[(b) height,]~~ (c) weight, and (d) education.

5 The Commission shall promulgate rules and regulations to
6 address other situations arising from the waiver of the entry
7 requirements."

8 Sec. 6. Pursuant to Section 2 of this Act, Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9263 is
9 hereby amended as follows:

10 "Sec. 4. *Professionalization and Upgrading of Qualification*
11 *Standards in the Appointment of Uniformed Personnel to the*
12 *BFP and the BJMP.* – No person shall be appointed as
13 uniformed personnel of the BFP and BJMP unless he or she
14 possesses the following minimum qualifications:

15 a) xxx xxx xxx

16
17 xxx xxx xxx

18 h) ~~[Must be at least one meter and sixty two~~
19 ~~centimeters (1.62 m.) in height for male and one~~
20 ~~meter and fifty seven centimeters (1.57 m.) for~~
21 ~~female;]~~

22 xxx xxx xxx."

23 Sec. 7. Pursuant to Section 2 of this Act, Section 11 of Republic Act No. 10575
24 is hereby amended as follows:

25 "Sec. 11. *Professionalization and Upgrading of Qualification*
26 *Standards in the Appointment of the BuCor Personnel.* – No
27 person shall be appointed as personnel of the Bucor unless
28 one possesses the following minimum qualifications:

29 (1) xxx xxx xxx

30
31 xxx xxx xxx

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(8) ~~[Must be at least one meter and sixty two centimeters (1.62 m.) in height for male, and one meter and fifty seven centimeters (1.57 m.) for female: *Provided*, That a waiver for height and age requirement/s may be granted to applicants belonging to the cultural communities *Provided*, *further*, That a new applicant must not be less than twenty-one (21) or more than forty (40) years of age. Except for this particular provision, the above-enumerated qualifications shall be continuing in character and an absence of any one of them at any given time shall be ground for separation or retirement from the service: *Provided*, *furthermore*, That those who are already in the service upon the effectivity of this Act shall be given five (5) years from the date of such effectivity to obtain the minimum educational qualification and eligibility with subsidiary assistance as provided for in this Act."~~

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Sec. 8. *Automatic Compliance*. – Applicants to the PNP, BFP, BJMP and BuCor who were conditionally appointed as uniformed personnel, officers or members and were required but have not submitted their corresponding waiver for the height requirement, and whose appointments have been pending with the Civil Service Commission, upon the effectivity of this Act, are hereby deemed to have complied with such requirement.

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Sec. 9. *Separability Clause*. – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

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Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, decrees, orders, regulations and policies inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed and/or amended accordingly.

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Sec. 11. *Effectivity*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,