



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

20 APR 16 A9:12

SENATE
S.B. No. 1427

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11469 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"BAYANIHAN TO HEAL AS ONE ACT"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 18 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare.

On 24 March 2020, President Rodrigo Duterte signed into law Republic Act No. 11469 otherwise known as the, "*Bayanihan to Heal As One Act*" which aims to immediately address the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic that has greatly affected the Philippines and other nations worldwide.

However, in addition to frontline workers in the health, food security, and transport sectors, we must recognize the invaluable contribution of the media personnel. During this time of the pandemic, providing information to the public is a vital device – warning them of the nature of the disease, updating them of medical fact and timetables, and finally assuring the public of a united effort to fight COVID-19. The very least we can do is to pay our media frontliners a small special risk allowance, similar to that granted to other frontlines.

IMEE R. MARCOS

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"BAYANIHAN TO HEAL AS ONE ACT"**

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 11469, otherwise known as the
2 "*Bayanihan to Heal As One Act*" is hereby amended to read, as follows:

3 "Sec. 4. Authorized Powers. – Pursuant to Article VI, Section 23 (2) of the
4 Constitution, the President is hereby authorized to exercise powers that are
5 necessary and proper to carry out the declared national policy. The President
6 shall have the power to adopt the following temporary emergency measures
7 to respond to crisis brought by the pandemic:

8 x x x

9 (d) Ensure that all public health workers **AND MEDIA PERSONNEL,**
10 **DEPLOYED ON FIELD WORK,** are protected by providing them with a
11 "COVID-19 special risk allowance", in addition to the hazard pay granted
12 under the Magna Carta of Public Health Workers or Republic Act No. 7305
13 **AND OTHER RELEVANT LAWS;**

14 x x x

15 *Sec. 2. Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
16 other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
17 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

1 **Sec. 3. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
2 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall
3 remain in force and effect.

4 **Sec. 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following
5 the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of
6 general circulation in the Philippines.

7

8 **Approved,**