

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

7 JUN 30 P2:38

SENATE RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 151

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Much has been said and argued about people empowerment. It is a fundamental fact, however, that people empowerment can become a reality only if the people are well-equipped socially and economically to harness much needed resources.

The barangay, being the government unit closest to the people where certain levels of executive, legislative and judicial functions are bestowed, is the proper vehicle to actualize this vision of people empowerment. However, at present, barangays can hardly be expected to assume this vital role because of the inadequacy of funds and resources at their disposal.

It is therefore, the intention of this bill to seek the allocation of Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P200,000.00) per annum for six consecutive years for each barangay. This amount shall be known as the Rural Livelihood and Economic Development Fund to be used specifically for livelihood projects that shall provide employment and increase the income of the people. Alternatively, it can be used as seed money for cooperatives, as well as to finance infrastructure projects.

Approval of this bill is therefore earnestly requested.

  
JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator

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**AN ACT**  
**APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS**  
**(P200,000.00) PER ANNUM FOR EVERY BARANGAY FOR SIX**  
**CONSECUTIVE YEARS TO CONSTITUTE A FUND KNOWN AS THE RURAL**  
**LIVELIHOOD AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND**

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

**SECTION 1.** There shall be established in every barangay a special fund to be known as the ***Rural Livelihood and Economic Development Fund***.

**SEC 2.** Pursuant to the preceding Section, every barangay shall be allocated an amount of Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P200,000.00) per annum, for six consecutive years from the effectivity of this Act. The fund shall be included in the annual appropriation of the Department of Interior and Local Government and may be funded from foreign and domestic sources.

**SEC 3.** The funds shall be used exclusively for the establishments of small-scale livelihood projects, seed money for cooperatives, or for the purchase of equipment and facilities necessary in the administration of barangay affairs and infrastructure projects: *Provided*, That contiguous barangays may combine their respective allocations in order to come up with impact projects requiring greater capitalization.

**SEC 4.** The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination with the local government unit concerned, shall administer and supervise the implementation of the fund in coordination with appropriate government agencies concerned like the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). For this purpose, the Department of the Interior and Local Government is hereby authorized to formulate the necessary guidelines to ensure the successful implementation of this program.

**SEC 5. *Repealing Clause*** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive Orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with or contrary to this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC 6. *Separability Clause*** - Should any provision, part or portion of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions, sections, parts or portions not affected thereby shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

**SEC 7. *Effectivity Clause*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved*