

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

7 JUN 30 P3:43

SENATE
Senate Bill No. 199

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **Senator Lacson**

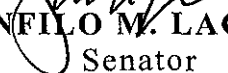
EXPLANATORY NOTE

In reality, the maintenance of local peace and order and the promotion of public safety in every nook and corner of our society rests primarily not with the local police, but rather, with a handful of men roaming each and every barangay in the country particularly at night, the Barangay Tanods. These men composed mainly of civilian volunteers, are armed not with a gun but with night sticks, walk in groups of four to six men instead of riding in patrol cars in protecting their respective areas of jurisdiction and responding to the call of anyone when the need for it arises.

Through the years, the plight of these Barangay Tanods is often neglected. Although they are given some benefits for the task they perform, these benefits are not commensurate with the risk they are encountering in the performance of their assigned task. This proposed measure seeks to remedy the sad plight of our Barangay Tanods by giving them the needed benefits and support they truly deserve.

The proposed legislative measure seeks to increase the benefits presently received by our Barangay Tanods like Christmas Bonus equivalent to one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of what the present Punong Barangay is receiving; insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourth ($\frac{3}{4}$) of what the Punong Barangay is receiving; free legal services from government lawyers for criminal or civil cases filed against them in the performance of their duties; fifty percent (50%) discount in tuition and matriculation fees for his legitimate and legally adopted children attending any state colleges and universities; and preference in the availment of and or membership in barangay livelihood and development projects.

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


PANFILO M. LACSON
Senator

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AN ACT
UPGRADING THE BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES OF BARANGAY
TANOD MEMBERS WHO HAVE RENDERED AT LEAST ONE YEAR
OF SERVICE IN THE BARANGAY GOVERNMENT

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

SECTION 1. The State recognizes the Barangay Tanod, duly created under the provision of the Local Government Code, as an indispensable instrument in barangay government, particularly in the latter's role in the maintenance and protection of peace and security and the promotion of public safety within the barangay.

SEC. 2. As used herein, a Barangay Tanod, means a brigade or body composed of civilian volunteers, duly created at the barangay level, to assist the barangay officials in the effective exercises of law enforcement for the maintenance of peace and order and the promotion of public safety.

Barangay Tanod members refer to civilian volunteers, duly appointed by the sangguniang barangay, irrespective of the number thereof.

SEC. 3. Without in any way diminishing the benefits and privileges already granted by the Local Government and other related laws, a member of the Barangay Tanod who has rendered continuous service for at least one year in any barangay shall, during his incumbency be entitled to the following:

- (a) Christmas bonus equivalent to at least one half (1/2) of what the punong barangay is receiving, as mandated by law or ordinance;
- (b) An insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourths (3/4) of that received by the punong barangay, in accordance by with Republic Act Sixty Nine Forty Two (RA 6942) otherwise known as "An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits Of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor" or the amount provided for under Section 393 (d) of the Local Government Code, whichever is higher;
- (c) Free legal services from government lawyers for criminal and civil cases filed against him, arising from acts committed in

the performance of his duties. Provided, that such legal services shall continue, even after the term of the barangay tanod member as long as the subject of the cases filed against him arises from acts committed in the performance of his duties;

- (d) Fifty (50%) percent discount in tuition and matriculation fees for his legitimate or legally adopted children attending any recognized state colleges and universities. Provided that his legitimate or legally adopted children can continue to avail of this educational benefit even if he no longer serve as a barangay tanod for at least two (2) years and was not removed for cause as provided in Section 5 hereof; and
- (e) Preference in the availment of and/or membership in barangay livelihood and development projects, whether initiated by the National Government or the local government units.

SEC. 4. A Barangay Tanod member who is yet to render service as such, to any barangay for a period of one (1) year shall receive the benefits and privileges as mandated by the Local Government Code.

SEC. 5. A Barangay Tanod once appointed shall not be removed as such nor his services be terminated, except for causes enumerated by the barangay resolution creating the Barangay Tanod, which shall take into consideration the integrity, responsibility and accountability in barangay service of the barangay tanod concerned. The decision to remove a barangay tanod for cause shall rest upon the decision of the sangguniang barangay concerned.

SEC. 6. Such sums as may be necessary for the implementation of the provision of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, the amount needed to implement this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act of the Department of Interior and Local Government.

SEC. 7. All general and special laws, acts, city or municipal ordinances, executive orders, proclamations and administrative regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. The Department of Interior and Local Government shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen days after the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,