

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

6 JUN -7 P4:28

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 2370

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Many depressed and critical areas in the country today have no rural health physicians, dentists, nurses, midwives, x-ray technicians, medical technologists, nutritionists and aides. Study shows that such situation is common in the provinces of Sulu, Zamboanga, Lanao, Basilan, Maguindanao, Northern and Western Samar, and Nueva Ecija. The obvious reason for this is the lack of attractive monetary rewards to these professionals which in turn, leads to the rising number of these professional going to foreign countries to work as such.

In order to attract applicants for the existing vacant positions of rural health physicians, dentists, nurses, midwives, x-ray technicians, medical technologists, nutritionists and aides in the abovementioned areas, the government should provide an attractive incentive system such as "hardship allowance" equivalent to as much as 50% to 100% of the basic salary.

The Constitution underscores the urgent need to assist this kind of people when it declares that "there shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women and children" (Sec. 11, Article XIII). It is in this spirit that this government has to assist thousands of sick people, especially children, who cannot be examined, treated or assisted by government health officers because they live in far-flung areas.

Accordingly, the urgent passage of the bill is hereby recommended.




MANNY VILLAR

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

6 JUN -7 P4:08

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 2370

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

**AN ACT
AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF
HEALTH TO PAY HARDSHIP ALLOWANCES TO
PHYSICIANS, DENTISTS, NURSES, MIDWIVES,
X-RAY TECHNICIANS, MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS,
NUTRITIONISTS AND AIDES WHO ARE
PRESENTLY EMPLOYED AND WHO ARE WILLING
TO TAKE ASSIGNMENTS IN MUNICIPALITIES
WHERE THE POSITIONS ABOVE MENTIONED HAVE
BEEN VACANT FOR THREE YEARS OR MORE.**

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

Section 1. The Secretary of Health is hereby authorized to pay hardship allowance to physicians, dentists, nurses, midwives, x-ray technicians, medicine technologists, nutritionists and aides presently employed or who may be willing to accept assignments in any municipality where the positions abovementioned have been vacant for three (3) years or more.

Section 2. The hardship allowance herein provided which shall be in addition to the existing salary and other emoluments shall be as follows:

a. For such position which has been vacant for three years but less than ten years, an amount equivalent to fifty *per centum* of the basic salary;

b. For such position which has been vacant for ten years or more and situated more than one hundred kilometers from the provincial capital, an amount equivalent to sixty to one hundred *per centum* of the basic salary, depending on the distance, peace and order conditions, length of time the position has been vacant and the size of population.

Section 3. Immediately upon the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Health shall submit to the Department of Budget and Management the *plantilla* of positions for physicians, dentists, nurses, midwives, x-ray technicians, medical technologists, nutritionists and aides which have not been filled up for the last three years or more, including the estimated hardship allowances for each

vacant position which the Secretary may grant taking into consideration the guidelines provided in Section 2 hereof.

Section 4. The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated: provided, That the corresponding amount needed to implement this Act in subsequent years shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act for the Department of Health.

Section 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,