


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

7 NOV 26 1977

SENATE  
S. No. 1909

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

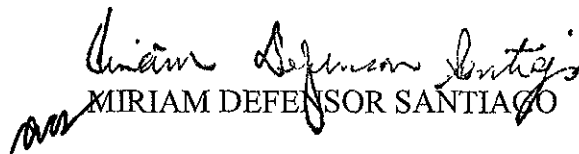
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The increased economic activity in the country has set aside safety standards and prevention measures that could prevent, mitigate and lessen the harm of potential industrial and residential accidents like fire.

Republic Act No. 6975 mandated the Bureau of Fire protection to ensure public safety through the prevention and suppression of all kinds of destructive fires, enforce the Fire Code, investigate all causes of fires and, if necessary, file the proper complaints with the appropriate agencies. For operational and logistical efficiency, the BFP will have to effect a modernization program that would safeguard the populace from the hazards of destructive fires.

The following goals should be realized: (1) Fire stations and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) will have to be created in all local government units; (2) fire trucks that can respond to buildings in financial districts and can navigate small roads and thoroughfares in densely populated urban centers will have to be purchased; (3) trauma units in public hospitals will have to be upgraded; (4) rescue hotlines promoted; and (5) fire personnel, as well as fire volunteers, will have to be trained to be state of the art in terms of fire prevention and suppression.

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO



1 (d) Establishment of training facilities including the hiring of internationally  
2 accredited training consultants and advisers if experts of equal qualification cannot be  
3 secured locally to accelerate the personnel development program.

4 SECTION 4. *Special Provident Fund.* – A Special provident Fund shall be created  
5 under the BFP solely for the retirement, disability, and death benefits for members and  
6 scholarship for dependents.

7 SECTION 5. *Budget.* – The amount of Eight Billion Pesos (P 8,000,000,000.00)  
8 for the Fire Protection Modernization Program is hereby appropriated from the following  
9 sources:

10 (a) P 3.5 Billion from the 32.5% share of the Armed Forces of the Philippines  
11 pursuant to Republic Act No. 7227, Section 8(1);

12 (b) P 2.5 Billion from the income of the Philippine Lottery;

13 (c) P 1.0 Billion from the income of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming  
14 Corporation (PAGCOR);

15 (d) 1.0 Billion to be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year  
16 immediately preceding the effectivity of this Act.

17 SECTION 6. *Multi-Year Contracts or Other Contractual Arrangement.* – The  
18 Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) may, subject to the approval of the  
19 President, provisions of existing laws and regulations including those of the Commission  
20 on Audit and under such terms and conditions favorable to the government, enter into  
21 multi-year contracts, lease/lease-purchase agreements or other contractual agreements  
22 with local or foreign suppliers/contractors in the implementation of this Act.

23 SECTION 7. *Special Foreign Exchange Reduction Scheme.* – In order to reduce  
24 foreign exchange outflow, generate local employment opportunities, and enhance  
25 technology transfer to the Philippines, the DILG shall, as far as feasible, incorporate in  
26 each contract/agreement special foreign exchange reduction schemes such as barter,

1 counter trade, in-country manufacture, co-production, build-operate transfer (BOT) or  
2 other innovative arrangements or combinations thereof.

3 SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within thirty (30) days from  
4 the approval of this Act, the DILG shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to  
5 implement the provisions of this Act; Provided, that such implementing rules and  
6 regulations shall ensure that the fire protection vehicles/crafts of various types,  
7 communication equipment and facilities, and other support equipment will be equitably  
8 distributed to the different fire units for the better realization of the envisioned objectives  
9 of this Act.

10 SECTION 9. *Annual Reports.* – The Chief Fire Marshall shall submit to the  
11 president and Congress, through the Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local  
12 Governments, an annual report containing the process of the implementation of the Fire  
13 Protection Modernization program as provided for in this Act.

14 The Secretary of Interior and Local Government shall submit to the President and  
15 Congress an annual report of the status of Fire Protection Modernization Program Trust  
16 Fund as provided for by Section 4 hereof.

17 SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any part or provision of  
18 this Act is declared unconstitutional or illegal, other parts or provisions hereof which are  
19 not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

20 SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
21 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to  
22 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended  
23 accordingly.

24 SECTION 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
25 complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

26 Approved,