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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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SENATE S. No. **1909** HERENCED IN LANGE

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE OF THE PHILIPPINES	E REPUBLIC)	7 HDV 26 93:39
First Regular Session)	
S. I	SENATE No. 1909	HEGENVER W
Introduced by Sena	ator Miriam Defens	sor Santiago
PROVIDING FOR THE MOI	AN ACT DERNIZATION O	F FIRE PROTECTION
Be it enacted by the Senate and Congress assembled:	the House of Repr	esentatives of the Philippines in
SECTION 1. Title This	Act shall be kn	own as the "Fire Protection
Modernization Act of 2007".		
SECTION 2. Declaration of Po	olicy. – It is the po	olicy of the State to develop the
Bureau of Fire Protection BFP), ens	ure public safety	through the prevention of and
suppression of all kinds of destructive	e fires with the act	tive support of the community,
enforce Presidential Decree No. 118	35, and further str	rengthen the local government
capability aimed towards the effective	delivery of fire pr	rotection service and competent
fire protection personnel. The acquisit	ion of modern equ	ipment shall constitute the main
thrust of the Fire Protection Moderniza	tion Program.	
SECTION 3. Component. – T	The Fire Protection	n Modernization Program shall
consist of the following, for implement	ation over a three y	ear period::
(a) Establishment of Fire prote	ection Service (FPS	S) in all local government units
with no existing fire protection services	s;	
(b) Upgrading of existing fire p	rotection equipmen	at and services;
(c) Establishment of specialize	ed fire protection	and related services within the
BFP such as but not limited to: high-ri	ise building fires, f	forest fires, aircraft/airport fires,

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like; and

ship fires, chemical fires, disaster rescue services, emergency medical services and the

- (d) Establishment of training facilities including the hiring of internationally 1 accredited training consultants and advisers if experts of equal qualification cannot be 2 secured locally to accelerate the personnel development program. 3
- SECTION 4. Special Provident Fund. A Special provident Fund shall be created 4 under the BFP solely for the retirement, disability, and death benefits for members and 5 scholarship for dependents. 6
- SECTION 5. Budget. The amount of Eight Billion Pesos (P 8,000,000,000.00) 7 for the Fire Protection Modernization Program is hereby appropriated from the following 8 9 sources:
- (a) P 3.5 Billion from the 32.5% share of the Armed Forces of the Philippines 10 pursuant to Republic Act No. 7227, Section 8(1); 11
- (b) P 2.5 Billion from the income of the Philippine Lottery; 12

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- (c) P 1.0 Billion from the income of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming 13 Corporation (PAGCOR); 14
- (d) 1.0 Billion to be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year immediately preceding the effectivity of this Act. 16
- SECTION 6. Multi-Year Contracts or Other Contractual Arrangement. The 17 Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) may, subject to the approval of the 18 President, provisions of existing laws and regulations including those of the Commission 19 on Audit and under such terms and conditions favorable to the government, enter into 20 multi-year contracts, lease/lease-purchase agreements or other contractual agreements 21 with local or foreign suppliers/contractors in the implementation of this Act. 22
 - SECTION 7. Special Foreign Exchange Reduction Scheme. In order to reduce foreign exchange outflow, generate local employment opportunities, and enhance technology transfer to the Philippines, the DILG shall, as far as feasible, incorporate in 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.
- SECTION 9. Annual Reports. The Chief Fire Marshall shall submit to the
- president and Congress, through the Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local
- Governments, an annual report containing the process of the implementation of the Fire
- 13 Protection Modernization program as provided for in this Act.
- 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.
- SECTION 10. Separability Clause. If, for any reason, any part or provision of
- 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.
- SECTION 11. Repealing Clause. Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
- executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to
- or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended
- 23 accordingly.
- SECTION 12. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
- complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
- 26 Approved,