

SENATE BILL No. 2550

Introduced by Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Under Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, in Section 394 thereof, the Barangay Secretary is tasked to assist the city or municipal city registrar in the registration of births, deaths and marriages within his/ her territorial jurisdiction. However, fifteen years after the enactment of the Code, these functions of the Barangay Secretary have not been maximized. The assistance of the Barangay Secretary in civil registration activities will aid the Local Civil Registrar in reaching far flung areas for purposes of registering births, deaths, marriages and other registrable events.

Under the proposed amendment, the Barangay Secretaries shall now be required to submit to their respective local civil registrars a monthly report on registered births, deaths and marriages in their area of jurisdiction and an annual record of all inhabitants of their Barangay. If properly implemented, there will be a marked improvement in the delivery of basic services throughout the nation. More importantly, through the realization of the goal towards one hundred percent (100%) birth registration, every Filipino child shall be given a name and a nationality, as mandated by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

Immediate passage of this bill is hereby sought.


AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL, JR.

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AN ACT
AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Section 394 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 394. – Barangay Secretary, Appointment, Qualifications, Powers and Duties.

- (a) The Barangay Secretary shall be appointed by the Punong Barangay with the concurrence of the Sangguniang Barangay members. The appointment of the barangay secretary shall not be subject to attestation by the Civil Service Commission.
- (b) The Barangay Secretary shall be of legal age, AT LEAST A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE IN ANY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL IN THE PHILIPPINES, a qualified voter and an actual resident of the barangay concerned.

x x x

- (d) The Barangay Secretary shall:
 - (5) Assist and SUBMIT WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS AFTER THE END OF EVERY MONTH TO THE CITY/MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR [in] the report on registration of births, deaths and marriages;
 - (6) Keep an updated record of all inhabitants of the barangay containing the following items of information: name, address, place and date of birth, sex, civil status, citizenship, occupation and such other items of information as may be prescribed by law or ordinance AND SUBMIT THE SAME TO THE CITY/MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS AFTER THE END OF EVERY YEAR.

Section 2. Section 479 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 479. Qualifications, Powers and Duties. – (a) No person shall be appointed civil registrar unless he is a citizen of the Philippines x x x

(a) The Civil Registrar shall take charge of the office of the civil registry and shall:

(1) x x x

(2) In addition to the foregoing duties and functions, the civil registrar shall:

(i) Accept AND REGISTER THE MONTHLY AND ANNUAL REPORTS SUBMITTED BY THE BARANGAY SECRETARY AND all registrable documents and judicial decrees affecting the civil status of persons;

(iv) Transmit to the Office of the Civil Registrar-General, within the prescribed period, duplicate copies of registered documents required by law; PROVIDED THE MONTHLY AND ANNUAL REPORTS SUBMITTED BY THE BARANGAY SECRETARY BE TRANSMITTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CIVIL REGISTRAR- GENERAL WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS FROM DATE OF RECEIPT OF SUCH REPORTS;

x x x

(v) Issue certified transcripts or copies of any certificate OF BIRTH, DEATH, MARRIAGE or registered documents upon payment of the prescribed fees to the treasurer; PROVIDED THAT THE CERTIFIED TRANSCRIPTS OR COPIES OF THESE DOCUMENTS SHALL BE VALID FOR ALL LOCAL PURPOSES;

x x x”

Section 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Office of the Civil Registrar-General shall issue the implementing rules and regulations sixty within (60) days from the effectivity of this Act.

Section 4. Separability Clause. – Any part or provision of this Act shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, rules, regulations, orders, memoranda or circulars inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 6. Retroactivity. – This Act shall have retroactive effect insofar as it does not prejudice or impair vested or acquired rights.

Section 7. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.