

10-10-12

SENATE

S. No. 338

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

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**Explanatory Note**

The increased economic activity in the country has set aside safety standards and prevention measures that will prevent, mitigate, lessen industrial and residential accidents caused by fire.

Republic Act No. 6975 mandates the Bureau of Fire Protection to ensure public safety through the prevention and suppression of all kinds of destructive fires, the enforcement of the fire code, and the investigation of all causes of fires, and if necessary, the filing of the proper complaints with the appropriate agencies. For operational and logistical efficiency, the Bureau of Fire Protection needs to effect a modernization program that will safeguard the populace from the hazards of destructive fires.

This measure calls for the establishment of fire stations and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in all local government units. Through this legislation, fire trucks and similar equipments shall be punctual to effectively respond to fire alarms in both the financial districts and residential areas by making the capacity to navigate small roads and thoroughfares in densely populated urban centers. In addition, trauma units in public hospitals must be upgraded; and fire personnel as well as fire volunteers will be trained using state-of-the-art equipment\$ for fire prevention and suppression.

Passage of the measure is earnestly requested.



ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV  
Senator

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SENATE

S. No. 338

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

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AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF FIRE PROTECTION AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

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

1           **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known and cited as the "*Fire Protection*  
2 *Modernization Act of 2010.*"

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4           **SEC. 2. Declaration of policy.** - It is the policy of the State to develop the Bureau of Fire  
5 Protection (BFP) ensure public safety through the prevention of and suppression of all kinds of  
6 destructive fires with the active support of the community; enforce the Presidential Decree No.  
7 1185 and further strengthen local government capability aimed towards the effective delivery  
8 and competent fire protection personnel. The acquisition of modern equipment shall constitute  
9 the main thrust of the Fire Protection Modernization Program.

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11           **SEC. 3. Component.** - The Fire Protection Modernization Program shall consist of the  
12 following, for implementation over a third-year period:

13           A. Establishment of Fire Protection Services (FPS) in the 1,053 local government units  
14 with no existing fire protection services;

1 B. Upgrading of existing fire protection services;

2 C. Establishment of specialized fire protection and related services within the BFP to  
3 respond to situations such as but not limited to: high-rise building fires, forest fires,  
4 aircraft/airport fires, ship fires, chemical fires, disaster rescue, emergency, and medical  
5 operations; and

6 D. Establishment of training facilities, including the hiring of internationally accredited  
7 training consultants and advisers, in the absence of local experts, in order to accelerate  
8 the human resources development program.

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10 **SEC. 4. *Special Provident Fund.*** - A special Provident Fund shall be created under the  
11 BFP solely for the retirement, disability, and death benefits of the members and scholarship  
12 programs for their dependents.

13  
14 **SEC. 5. *Budget.*** - The amount of Eight Billion Pesos (P 8,000,000,000.00) for the Fire  
15 Protection Modernization Program is hereby appropriated from the following sources:

16 (a) P3.5 Billion - from the thirty-two and five tenths percent (32.5%) share of the Armed  
17 Forces of the Philippines pursuant to Sec. 8 (1) of Republic Act No. 7227;

18 (b) P2.5 Billion - from the income of Philippine Lottery;

19 (c) P1.0 Billion - from the income of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation  
20 (PAGCOR); and

21 (d) P1.0 Billion - to be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year  
22 immediately preceding the effectivity of this Act.

1           **SEC. 6. *Multi-Year Contracts or Other Contractual Arrangement*** - For the proper  
2 implementation of this Act, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) may,  
3 subject to the approval of the President, the provisions of existing laws and regulations including  
4 those of the Commission on Audit, and under such terms and conditions favorable to the  
5 Government, enter into multi-year contracts, lease/lease-purchase agreements or other  
6 contractual arrangements with local or foreign suppliers/contractors.

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8           **SEC. 7. *Special Foreign Exchange Reduction Scheme***. - In order to reduce foreign  
9 exchange outflow, generate local employment opportunities, and enhance technology transfer to  
10 the Philippines, the DILG shall, as far as practicable, incorporate in each contract/agreement  
11 special foreign exchange reduction schemes such as barter, counter trade, in-country  
12 manufacture, co-production, build-operate transfer (BOT), or other innovative arrangements or  
13 combinations thereof.

14  
15           **SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations***. -Within thirty (30) days from the  
16 approval of this Act, the DILG shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to  
17 implement the provisions of this Act: *Provided*, That such implementing rules and regulations  
18 shall ensure that the fire protection vehicles/crafts of various types, communication equipment  
19 and facilities, and other support equipment will be equitably distributed to the different fire units.

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21           **SEC. 9. *Annual Reports***. -The Chief Fire Marshal shall submit to the President and  
22 Congress, through the Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Governments, an annual

1 report on the implementation of the Fire Protection Modernization Program as provided for  
2 under this Act.

3 The Secretary of Interior and Local Government shall submit to the President and  
4 Congress an annual report on the status of the Fire Protection Modernization Program Trust Fund  
5 as provided in Section 4 hereof.

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7 **SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, and  
8 issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
9 accordingly.

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11 **SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.*** - If any part or provision of this Act is held  
12 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall  
13 continue to be in full force and effect.

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15 **SEC. 12. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its  
16 complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,