


8 AUG 28 P4:30

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2577

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**INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Philippine National Police (PNP) Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998 or Republic Act No. 8551 has upgraded the general qualifications for the appointment into the police service amending for that purpose the Department of the Interior and Local Government Act of 1990 or Republic Act No. 6975.

Specifically, Section 30 of R.A. No. 6975 was amended by Section 14 of R.A. No. 8551, which provided that minimum educational qualification for appointment into the PNP shall be "a formal baccalaureate degree from a recognized institution of learning".

The same Section 14 of R.A. No. 8551 also provided that PNP members who were already in the service upon the effectivity of the said Act shall be given at least two (2) more years to obtain the minimum educational qualification.

However, the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. no. 8551 has extended the reglementary period for the satisfaction of the minimum educational qualification to five (5) years from the effectivity date of the same IRR in January 1999.

Nonetheless, there was no amendatory law that provided for the basis of the said IRR. This bill hereby proposes to extend the reglementary period for the satisfaction of the minimum education qualification for appointment to the PNP to five (5) years but it will be reckoned from the date of the effectivity of this Act, notwithstanding the provisions indicated in R.A. 8551 or its subsequent IRR.

As such, the projected attrition, separation or retirement of thousands of affected policemen will not yet be implemented in favor of the effective operational capability of the PNP which will surely be drastically reduced due to the decrease in the numbers of active policemen.

Considerably, the greater component of those affected policemen is actually composed of a number of the most competent and well-experienced PNP uniformed personnel who acquired the skills of the job and learned the rigors of the profession through their long field experience.

Moreover, the reduction of our police complement will also result in a decreased level of organizational effectiveness of the police force as well as in maintaining the police to population ratio. Admittedly, the forced separation or retirement of these concerned policemen will result in the sudden depletion in the number of PNP personnel which cannot be easily replaced considering the limited annual recruitment quota.

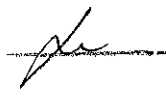
Hence, the immediate enactment of this bill is hereby sought.

  
MANNY VILLAR

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Second Regular Session

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AN ACT  
EXTENDING THE REQUIRED PERIOD FOR THE SATISFACTION  
OF THE MINIMUM EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION FOR  
APPOINTMENT TO THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE TO FIVE (5 YEARS),  
AMENDING SECTION 30 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975,  
AS AMENDED BY SECTION 14 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8551

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 30 of Republic Act No. 6975, as amended by Section 14  
2 of Republic Act No. 8551, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

3 "Sec. 30. *General Qualifications for Appointment.* – No person shall be  
4 appointed as officer or member of the PNP unless he or she possesses the  
5 following minimum qualifications:

6 xxx xxx xxx

7 (d) Must possess a formal baccalaureate degree from a recognized  
8 institution of learning;

9 xxx xxx xxx

10 (j) For a new applicant, must not be less than twenty-one (21) nor  
11 more than thirty (30) years of age: except for the last qualification, the above-  
12 enumerated qualifications shall be continuing in character and an absence of  
13 any one of them at any given time shall be a ground for separation or  
14 retirement from the service: Provided, That PNP members who are already in  
15 the service upon the effectivity of this Act shall be given [at least two (2)  
16 more] **FIVE (5)** years to obtain the minimum educational qualification, **TO BE**  
17 **RECKONED FROM THE DATE OF THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS**  
18 **AMENDATORY ACT**, and one (1) year to satisfy the weight requirement.

19 For the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements on  
20 *physical and mental health, as well as the non-use of prohibited drugs, the*

1 PNP by itself or through a NAPOLCOM accredited government hospital shall  
2 conduct regular psychiatric, psychological drug and physical tests randomly  
3 and without notice.

4 After the lapse of the time period for the satisfaction of a specific  
5 requirement, current members of the PNP who will fail to satisfy any of the  
6 requirements enumerated under this Section shall be separated from the  
7 service if they are below fifty (50) years of age and have served in  
8 Government for less than twenty (20) years or retired if they are from the age  
9 of fifty (50) and above and have served the Government for at least twenty  
10 (20) years without prejudice in either case to the payment of benefits they  
11 may be entitled to under existing laws.”

12 Sec. 2. All laws, presidential decrees, presidential proclamations, letters of  
13 instructions, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent  
14 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

15 Sec. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete  
16 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general  
17 circulation.

18 Approved,