

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 984

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Introduced by Rep. LAWRENCE LEMUEL H. FORTUN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Despite the lack of adequate facilities and resources, barangay tanod brigade have consistently proved to be effective in the maintenance of public order, protection and security of life and property and the maintenance of a desirable environment in their respective barangays.

However, sangguniang barangays may, at times, have difficulty in the selection of barangay tanods because very few barangay residents show interest in becoming part of the tanod brigades. This problem is admittedly due to the low sense of worth and dignity in the work of barangay tanods because of the lack of a serious effort in promoting and enhancing their social, economic, living and working conditions.

This bill seeks to grant to barangay tanods similar privileges and benefits received by other appointive barangay officials to improve their economic welfare and to enhance their skills and capabilities to make them better equipped in the maintenance of peace and order in barangays, thereby effectively helping the National Government in its efforts to deter and put an end to the upsurge of criminality in the country.

It is contended that it is only through the grant of special benefits, privileges and opportunities for personal development can the government effectively encourage barangay residents to take interest in joining tanod brigades and render service befitting their positions.

More importantly, the work of a barangay tanod entails great personal sacrifice. Hence, it is but just and reasonable for the government to recognize his/her services which he/she selflessly offers to his community.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


LAWRENCE LEMUEL H. FORTUN
1st District, Agusan del Norte

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. 984

Introduced by Rep. LAWRENCE LEMUEL H. FORTUN

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAY TANODS”

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the “Magna Carta of Barangay Tanods”
2

3 **SECTION 2. Definition of Terms** – As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean as
4 follows:
5

6 a) **Barangay Tanod** – A barangay member or resident appointed by the Punong Barangay
7 upon selection and approval by a majority of all the members of the sangguniang barangay, and is
8 changed with the maintenance of public order, protection and security of life and property, or the
9 maintenance of a desirable and balanced environment, whose duties and functions are enumerated
10 under Sec. 6 of this Act;
11

12 b) **Merit and Fitness Principle** – By merit and fitness principle in the selection and
13 appointment must be made solely on the basis of qualification, capability, competency, aptitude,
14 experience of fitness, rather than on patronage or partisan reasons.
15

16 **SEC. 3. Declaration of Policy.** - It shall be the policy of the State to promote and enhance the
17 social and economic well-being of the barangay tanods, their living and working conditions and terms
18 of employment. The State shall develop and improve their skills and capabilities to make them better
19 equipped in the maintenance of peace and order in the barangays, thereby effectively helping not only
20 the local governments but the National Government as well in its efforts to deter and put an end to the
21 upsurge of criminality in the country. The State shall likewise enjoin the Sangguniang Barangay to
22 eliminate partisan considerations in the selection and appointment of barangay tanods and to retain
23 those with commendable qualifications and track record of service.
24

25 **SEC. 4. Coverage.** - This Act shall cover all barangay tanods of all barangays.
26

27 **SEC. 5. Selection and Qualifications.** - The appointment of barangay tanods shall be done by
28 the Punong Barangay upon selection and approval by a majority of the members of the sangguniang
29 barangay concerned in accordance with the merit and fitness principle: *Provided*, That no person shall
30 be appointed barangay tanod unless he or she is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the barangay
31 concerned, of good moral character, of sound mind and has completed at least elementary education:
32 *Provided further*, That patronage or partisan considerations shall not be a basis for such selection and
33 appointment, otherwise the same shall be null and void if so proved in a proper proceeding.
34

35 **SEC. 6. Duties and Functions.** - All barangay tanods shall have the following duties and
36 functions:
37

38 a) Enforce all laws and ordinances relative to the protection of lives and properties in their
39 respective barangays;

40 b) Maintain peace and order and take all the necessary steps to ensure public safety;

41
42
43 c) Report to, assist or coordinate with the local police authorities in the arrest of criminal
44 offenders who may be found in their barangays;

45
46 d) Effect the arrest of criminal offenders or persons whose actions or behavior threaten public
47 order and deliver them to the proper police or judicial authorities;

48
49 e) Perform such other functions as may be provided by law or ordinance.
50

51 **SEC. 7. Security of Tenure.** - All barangay tanods shall be appointed to a permanent status
52 during the administration of the sangguniang barangay which appointed them, and no barangay tanod
53 so appointed shall be suspended or terminated except for cause: *Provided*, That in the event a barangay
54 tanod is found to be unjustly suspended or terminated, he or she shall be entitled to reinstatement and to
55 payment of all honoraria, allowances and such other emoluments and benefits accruing during such
56 suspension or termination: *Provided however*, that if the barangay tanod does not desire to be
57 reinstated, he or she shall still receive such honoraria, allowances and such other emoluments and
58 benefits.
59

60 **SEC. 8. Freedom from Undue Influence, Interference and Coercion.** - It shall be unlawful
61 for any person to commit any of the following interference and coercion:
62

63 a) To put as a condition for selection and appointment that a barangay tanod must support or
64 vote, or must have supported or voted for any incumbent elective barangay official or for any candidate
65 of the barangay official's choice in either previous or future elections, whether local or national;
66

67 b) To prevent, in any manner, a barangay tanod from effectively carrying out his or her duties and
68 functions;
69

70 c) To coerce, intimidate or unduly influence a barangay tanod to refrain from arresting any
71 person who is committing, has committed or is about to commit any crime or any acts which disturb
72 public peace or order or which offends against decency, morals or good customs within the barangay
73 tanod's area of jurisdiction, or to prevent him/her from delivering such person to the proper police or
74 judicial authorities, or from reporting the same to said authorities;
75

76 d) To suspend or terminate the services of a barangay tanod without just cause or without
77 observance of due process.
78

79 **SEC. 9. Benefits of Barangay Tanods.** - Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding,
80 barangay tanods shall receive the same benefits and privileges enjoyed by barangay secretaries and
81 barangay treasurers under Sec. 393 of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government
82 Code of 1991, including but not limited to the following:
83

84 a) Honoraria, allowances such other emoluments as may be authorized by law or the barangay
85 in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 7160 but in no case shall it be less than P600.00 per
86 month;
87

88 b) Christmas bonus of at least One Thousand pesos (P1,000.00) each, the funds for which shall
89 be taken from the general fund of the barangay or from such other funds appropriated by the National
90 Government for the purpose;
91

92 c) Insurance coverage, during their incumbency, which shall include, but shall not be limited to
93 temporary and permanent disability, double indemnity, accident insurance, death and burial benefits, in
94 accordance with Republic Act 6942 entitled " An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local
95 Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor";
96

97 d) Free medical care including subsistence, medicines, and medical attendance in any
98 government hospital or institution: *Provided*, That such hospital care shall include surgery or surgical

