

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1165

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Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MARIA LOURDES ACOSTA-ALBA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the policy of the State to enhance and promote the social and economic well-being of barangay volunteers. As the front-liners in providing peace and security in the smallest administrative unit in the country, it is imperative that each and every active member of the CVO be properly recognized by whatever means possible.

Barangays all over the country have organized Civilian Volunteer Organizations whose membership come from the same locality. Their involvement was the result of their commitment to assist their respective communities bring peace and security within the purview of public safety for all. As volunteers, they are provided meager allowance to cover for their services.

It is the intent of this Bill to recognize the important role of the CVO barangay volunteers by extending to the active members of the CVO the required honorarium to be sourced from the statutory fund allocation of each barangay.


MARIA LOURDES ACOSTA-ALBA
First District, Bukidnon

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1165

Introduced by Representative Maria Lourdes Acosta-Alba

**AN ACT
PROVIDING BENEFITS TO BARANGAY VOLUNTEER WORKERS OF
ACCREDITED VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS (VOs)**

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

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as "*An Act Providing Benefits to Barangay Volunteer Workers.*"

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to enhance and promote the social and economic status of barangay volunteers. The State shall protect the rights of barangay volunteers and promote their welfare.

SEC. 3. Coverage. - This Act shall cover all members of accredited Civilian Volunteer Organizations (CVOs) and all other volunteers who perform regular governance or service functions in the barangay.

SEC. 4. Definition of Terms. - For purposes of this Act, the following shall mean:

1. Civilian Volunteer Organization refers to a body or brigade composed of barangay volunteers such as the Barangay Tanod, MEMBERS OF THE Lupong Tagapamayapa, AND MEMBERS OF community brigade and community service units duly created at the barangay level to assist the barangay officials in the effective exercise of law enforcement for the maintenance of peace and order and the promotion of public safety, SECURITY, WELFARE, and THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM in the barangay.
2. Barangay Volunteer Workers refer to individuals who belong to a CVO committed to rendering their services and resources, whether full-time or part-time, to promote the public good.

3. VOLUNTEERISM REFERS TO AN ACT INVOLVING TRADITIONAL FORMS OF MUTUAL AID AND DEVELOPMENTAL INTERVENTIONS THAT PROVIDES AN ENABLING AND EMPOWERING ENVIRONMENT BOTH ON THE PART OF THE BENEFICIARY RECEIVING, AND THE VOLUNTEER RENDERING THE ACT, UNDERTAKEN FOR REASONS ARISING FROM SOCIO-DEVELOPMENTAL, COMMITMENT OR CONVICTION FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF PUBLIC GOOD AND WHERE MONETARY AND REWARD ARE NOT THE PRIMARY MOTIVATING FACTORS

SEC. 5. Qualifications. – A barangay volunteer must be of legal age, must be a resident of the BARANGAY where he intends to volunteer and must be of good moral character. A BARANGAY VOLUNTEER MAY CONTINUE TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY FOR AS LONG AS HE WISHES IF HE IS ABLE TO MAINTAIN THESE QUALIFICATIONS AND IF HIS PERFORMANCE AS A VOLUNTEER IS CONSIDERED COMMENDABLE BY BARANGAY OFFICIALS.

SEC. 6. DUTIES and Obligations of a Barangay Volunteer. - The barangay volunteer worker shall:

1. MAKE AVAILABLE HIS KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND TIME TO THE BARANGAY, AND REPORT FOR WORK AS AGREED WITH BARANGAY OFFICIALS;
2. Maintain and promote peace, public safety, SECURITY, WELFARE, and THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM in the barangay;
3. Discharge duty humanely with conscience and dignity, AND WITH UTMOST RESPECT FOR LIFE, GENDER, AND RELIGION; AND
4. SUBMIT A WRITTEN RESIGNATION WHEN HE WISHES TO RESIGN AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) DAYS PRIOR TO EFFECTIVITY THEREOF.

SEC. 7. Statutory Fund Allocation. - The barangay shall reserve 30% percent of its annual share of Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) and OTHER income to pay for the honorarium of barangay volunteers, WHICH MAY NOT EXCEED THE MINIMUM SALARY RATE FOR SG-1; Provided, That no volunteer shall receive an honorarium lower than P 1,500.00 per month.

SEC. 8. Security of TERM. - A volunteer shall be ASKED TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) DEFINING THE PERIOD OF SERVICE, reckoning from the date of appointment. THIS MOA MAY BE RENEWED UPON THE

AGREEMENT OF THE VOLUNTEER, THE CVO, AND THE BARANGAY CHAIRPERSON.

SEC. 9. Additional Benefits. - IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR SERVICES, volunteers shall be provided THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES:

1. FREE PHILHEALTH COVERAGE, PRE-EMPLOYMENT AND ANNUAL MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, AS WELL AS MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND TREATMENT OF WORK-RELATED AILMENTS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS;
2. Free legal services from government lawyers OR PRIVATE LAWYERS PURSUANT TO RA. NO. 9999 AND BAR MATTER NO. 2012, for cases arising from acts committed in the performance of duty; Provided, that such legal services shall continue, even after the expiration of the term of the barangay volunteer, until its final disposition; AND
3. TRAININGS AND SEMINARS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, DISASTER RESPONSE AND RISK REDUCTION, AND OTHERS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY WHERE THE VOLUNTEERS RENDER SERVICE.

SEC. 10. REVIEW BY THE SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY. - EVERY INCENTIVE OR BENEFIT FOR BARANGAY VOLUNTEERS REQUIRING EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL FUNDS SHALL BE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE SANGUNIANG BARANGAY, TO ENSURE THAT ONLY THE DESERVING VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE THE BENEFITS LISTED UNDER THIS ACT.

SEC. 11. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. - THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT - NATIONAL BARANGAY OPERATIONS OFFICE (NBOO), IN CONSULTATION WITH THE NATIONAL LIGA NG MGA BARANGAY AND CVOs , SHALL ISSUE THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR) WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS AFTER THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT.

SEC. 12. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is DECLARED unconstitutional, the SAME SHALL NOT AFFECT THE VALIDITY AND EFFECTIVITY OF THE OTHER PROVISIONS HEREOF.

SEC. 13. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, AND ISSUANCES OR PORTION THEREOF, AS WELL AS rules and regulations inconsistent with THE PROVISIONS OF this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

APPROVED,