

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 780



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Introduced by HON. MA. THERESA V. COLLANTES

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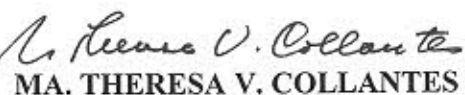
#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to include the Punong Barangays in the coverage of Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHILHEALTH).

The Punong Barangay is the first line of access to the delivery of government services to our people. They play a vital role in identifying the needs of the people, finding solutions to those needs and keeping the peace. More often than not, the Punong Barangay performs these functions and forgets his own personal needs.

With the approval of this bill, the Punong Barangay will be able to perform his functions without worrying about possible hospitalization expenses for him or his family or benefits due him after serving as Punong Barangay.

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

  
MA. THERESA V. COLLANTES

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF ALL PUNONG BARANGAYS WITHIN THE COVERAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS) AND PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH)

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the welfare of Punong Barangays, who make democracy function in the smallest territorial and political subdivision of the government. As part of the promotion of their welfare, the State shall ensure that they are covered by existing insurance, medical and health service programs of the government under existing laws.

SEC. 2. *GSIS and PHILHEALTH Benefits* – The Punong Barangay shall be considered members of the GSIS and PHILHEALTH and shall be covered with life insurance, retirement, disability, separation, unemployment benefit, health and medical insurances and such other benefits that may be extended by the GSIS and PHILHEALTH.

The GSIS and PHILHEALTH shall make special provisions in order to facilitate the inclusion of the Punong Barangay in their benefits coverage.

SEC. 3. *Limitation of the Coverage*. – Punong Barangay already enjoying insurance, retirement, disability, separation, unemployment benefit, health and medical insurance from the government shall not be covered by this Act.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause*. – If any part of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional for any reason whatsoever, such declaration shall in no way affect the other parts or section of this Act.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity*. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved.