Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3017

Introduced by Hon. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to include elected and appointed barangay officials as compulsory members of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), amending for this purpose Republic Act 8291, otherwise known as "The Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997".

Barangay officials work in the frontline of government services by serving as the primary planning and implementing workforce of government programs and activities. Their valuable contribution to the community through the delivery of basic social services as well as the maintenance of peace and order cannot be overlooked.

The GSIS is a social security institution created by the Commonwealth Act No. 186 and later amended under Republic Act No. 8291. It was created as a social insurance institution under a defined benefit scheme, which insures its members against the occurrence of certain contingencies in exchange for their monthly premium contributions.

Republic Act No. 8291, specifically Section 2(d), defines Employee or Member as any person, receiving compensation while in the service of an employer, whether by election or appointment, irrespective of status of appointment, including barangay and sanggunian officials. Compensation as defined in Section 2(i) of the said law however, refers to the basic pay or salary
received by an employee, pursuant to his election/appointment, excluding per
diem, bonuses, overtime pay, honoraria, allowance and any other emoluments
received in addition to the basic pay which are not integrated into the basic pay
under existing laws.

The said provisions of R.A. 8291 therefore, are not in harmony with
Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of the
Philippines. The latter provides under Section 393 (a) that, barangay officials,
including barangay tanods and members of the lupong tagapamayapa, shall only
receive honoraria. Honorarium is defined in the Merriam-Webster dictionary as
“a payment for a service (as making a speech) on which custom or propriety
forbids a price to be set.”

Hence, the urgent need to pass this measure to give recognition to our
elective barangay officials for their untiring efforts and genuine public service to
the people and their communities. In addition, this bill is intended to empower
the barangay officials and raise their economic and social status by providing
them with decent and comfortable living conditions after they retire from
government service.

Due to the foregoing reasons, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly
sought.

ATTY. WILTER “SHARKY” WEE PALMA II
1st District, Zamboanga Slbugay
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3017

Introduced By HON. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II

AN ACT
SEEKING TO INCLUDE BARANGAY OFFICIALS IN THE COMPULSORY MEMBERSHIP
OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS),
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE RA 8291 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the
2 State to promote the welfare and quality of life of our elective barangay officials.
3 The State values the services of its barangay officials and shall endeavour to
4 provide them with the insurance coverage to ensure efficient and effective
5 performance of their duties and functions.

6 SEC. 2. Barangay Officials. – For purposes of this Act, barangay officials
7 shall refer to the Punong Barangay and the Sangguniang Barangay Members,
8 whether elected or appointed in accordance with Section 45 of the Local
9 Government Code.
SEC. 3. Section 2(d) of Republic Act No. 8291 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. Definition of Terms

(d) Employee or Member – Any person, receiving compensation while in the service of an employer as defined herein, whether by election or appointment, irrespective of status of appointment, including barangay and sanggunian officials WHETHER OR NOT RECEIVING FIXED MONTHLY COMPENSATION

SEC. 4. Section 2(i) of the same Republic Act is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. Definition of Terms.-

“(i) Compensation – The basic pay or salary received by an employee, pursuant to his election/appointment, excluding per diems, bonuses, overtime pay, honoraria EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIAN OFFICIALS, allowances and any other emoluments received in addition to the basic pay which are not integrated into the basic pay under existing laws

SEC. 5. Compulsory Coverage. – All barangay officials shall be included in the compulsory membership of the Government Service and Insurance System under Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8291.

SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Government Service and Insurance System, in coordination and consultation with the Department of Interior and Local Government, Liga ng Mga Barangays and other agencies concerned, shall promulgate and adopt such rules and guidelines as may be necessary for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. The provinces, cities or municipalities subject to the availability of funds of the local government unit, may opt to contribute or subsidize the monthly contributions of said barangay officials.
SEC. 8. 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. 9. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,