HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

3153

HOUSE BILL NO. ___

Introduced by REP. ROMAN T. ROMULO
Lone District, Pasig City

AN ACT
UPGRADING THE BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES OF BARANGAY TANOD MEMBERS WHO HAVE RENDERED AT LEAST ONE YEAR OF SERVICE IN THE BARANGAY GOVERNMENT

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Unknown to many, the maintenance of local peace and order and the promotion of public safety in every nook and corner of our society rests primarily not with the local police, but rather, with a handful of men roaming each and every barangay in the country particularly at night, the Barangay Tanods. These men composed mainly of civilian volunteers, are armed not with a gun but with night sticks, are walking in groups of four (4) to six (6) men instead of riding in patrol cars in protecting their respective areas of jurisdiction and responding to the call of anyone when the need for it arises.

Through the years, the plight of these Barangay Tanods are often neglected. Although they are given some benefits for the task they perform, it is a fact that such benefits are not commensurate with the risk they are encountering while they are on duty. Thus, this proposed measure seeks to remedy the sad plight of our Barangay Tanods.

The proposed legislative measure seeks to increase the benefits presently received by our Barangay Tanods like Christmas Bonus equivalent to one-half (½) of what the present Punong Barangay is receiving; insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourth (¾) of what the Punong Barangay is receiving; free legal
services from government lawyers for criminal or civil cases filed against them in the performance of their duties; and preference in the availment of and or membership in barangay livelihood and development projects.

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

ROMAN T. ROMULO
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LEAST ONE YEAR OF SERVICE IN THE BARANGAY
GOVERNMENT

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The State recognizes the "Barangay Tanod",
2 duly created under the provision of the Local Government Code, as
3 an indispensable instrument in barangay government, particularly in
4 the latter's role in the maintenance and protection of peace and
5 security and the promotion of public safety within the barangay.
6
7 **SECTION 2.** As used herein, a Barangay Tanod, means a
8 brigade or body composed of civilian volunteers, duly created at
9 the barangay level, to assist the barangay officials in the effective
exercises of law enforcement for the maintenance of peace and
order and the promotion of public safety.

Barangay Tanod members refer to civilian volunteers, duly
appointed by the Sangguniang Barangay, irrespective of the number
thereof.

SECTION 3. Without in any way diminishing the benefits
and privileges already granted by the Local Government and other
related laws, a member of the Barangay Tanod who has rendered
continuous service for at least one (1) year in any barangay shall,
during his incumbency, be entitled to the following:

(a) Christmas bonus equivalent to at least one half (1/2) of
what the Punong Barangay is receiving, as mandated by
law or ordinance;

(b) An insurance coverage equivalent to three-fourths (3/4)
of that received by the Punong Barangay, in accordance
with Republic Act Sixty-Nine Forty-Two (RA 6942)
otherwise known as "An Act Increasing the Insurance
Benefits Of Local Government Officials and Providing
Funds Therefor" or the amount provided for under
Section 393 (d) of the Local Government Code,
whichever is higher;

(c) Free legal services from government lawyers for
criminal and civil cases filed against him, arising from
acts committed in the performance of his duties.
Provided, that such legal services shall continue, even
after the term of the Barangay Tanod member as long as
the subject of the cases filed against him arises from
acts committed in the performance of his duties;
(d) Preference in the availment of and/or membership in
barangay livelihood and development projects, whether
initiated by the National Government or the local
government units (LGUs).

SECTION 4. A Barangay Tanod member who is yet to render
service as such, to any barangay for a period of one (1) year shall
receive the benefits and privileges as mandated by the Local
Government Code.

SECTION 5. A Barangay Tanod, once appointed, shall not be
removed as such nor his services be terminated, except for causes
enumerated by the barangay resolution creating the Barangay
Tanod, which shall take into consideration the integrity,
responsibility and accountability in barangay service of the
barangay tanod concerned. The decision to remove a Barangay
Tanod for cause shall rest upon the decision of the Sangguniang
Barangay concerned.
SECTION 6. Such sums, as may be necessary for the implementation of the provision of this Act, are hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, the amount needed to implement this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) under the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SECTION 7. All general and special laws, acts, city or municipal ordinances, executive orders, proclamations and administrative regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. The Department of Interior and Local Government shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen days after the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,