Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3355

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE JOEL MAYO Z. ALMARIO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill mandates that each barangay must have a proportionate number of accredited full-time health workers to ensure compliance with its duty under the Local Government Code to provide "health and social welfare services which include maintenance of barangay health center and day-care center."

This bill will accordingly amend the Local Government Code to require the posting of at least ten (10) health workers per barangay. Such barangay health workers who will be appointed by the city or municipal mayor shall enjoy honoraria, allowances and other benefits accorded to other appointed barangay officials. Security of tenure will also be given to these qualified health workers.

As the primary channel for implementing the State's health policies at the grassroots level, it is only fitting that each barangay be equipped with qualified front liners who will ensure that accessible and quality health service is provided to all at an affordable cost.

Support for this bill is earnestly sought.

JOEL MAYO Z. ALMARIO
Representative
2nd District, Davao Oriental
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

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HOUSE BILL NO. 3355

Introduced by Representative JOEL MAYO Z. ALMARIO

AN ACT
MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN EVERY BARANGAY, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, FURTHER EXPANDING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Health Workers Act of 2019."

SECTION 2. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable to all barangay health workers accredited to act as such by the local health board in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Health (DOH).

For the purposes of this Act, the term barangay health worker shall refer to a person who has undergone training program under any accredited government or non-government organization primarily to render health care services.

SECTION 3. Section 387 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991" as amended, shall be further amended to read as follows:
"Section 387. Chief Officials and Officers. - (a) There shall be in each barangay a Punong Barangay, seven (7) Sangguniang Barangay members, the Sangguniang Kabataan chairman, a barangay secretary, (and) a barangay treasurer, AND AT LEAST TEN (10) BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS: PROVIDED, THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS PER BARANGAY SHALL IN NO CASE BE MORE THAN 1 % OF THE BARANGAY’S TOTAL POPULATION."

SECTION 4. A New provision shall be inserted between Sections 359 and 396 of the same Act to be denominated as Section 395-A, which shall read as follows:

"SECTION 395-A. APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS - THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER AS ACCREDITED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY HEALTH BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND BENEFITS ACT OF 1996, SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY MAYOR OF THE AREA WHERE SUCH BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER WILL BE APPOINTED IS LOCATED. A BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER SHALL BE ENTITLED TO HONORARIA, ALLOWANCES AND SUCH OTHER BENEFITS TO WHICH OTHER APPOINTED BARANGAY OFFICIALS MAY BE ENTITLED TO. NO PERSON DULY APPOINTED AS A BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER SHALL BE REMOVED EXCEPT FOR VALID CAUSE AS PROVIDED UNDER EXISTING CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND ONLY AFTER DUE NOTICE AND HEARING."

SECTION 5. Section 393, paragraphs (a) and (b) of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:
"Section 393. Benefits of Barangay Officials. - (a) Barangay officials, including barangay tanods and members of the lupong tagapamayapa, shall receive honoraria, allowances, and such other emoluments as may be authorized by law or barangay, municipal or city ordinance in accordance with the provisions of this Code, but in no case shall it be less than One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) per month for the punong barangay and Six Hundred Pesos (P600.00) per month for the sangguniang barangay members, barangay treasurer, [and] barangay secretary AND BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS: Provided, however, That the annual appropriations for personal services shall be subject to budgetary limitations prescribed under Title Five, Book II of this Code: PROVIDED FURTHERMORE, THAT THE BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THIS CODE SHALL BE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE APPLICATION OF AND ENTITLEMENT TO OTHER INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS FOR BARANGAY OFFICIALS AS MAY BE PROVIDED BY LAW SUCH AS REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6942 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT.

(b) The Punong Barangay, the Sangguniang Barangay members, the Barangay treasurer, [and] AND THE BARANGY HEALTH WORKER shall also: xxx

SECTION 6. Within ninety (90) days from the enactment of this Act, the Department of Interior and Local Government, in coordination with the Civil Service Commission shall promulgate and issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.
SECTION 7. All laws, decrease, executive orders, ordinances, rules and regulations
and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act
are hereby repealed, modified, superseded or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. The invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability of any
provision of this Act shall in no way affect the validity or enforceability of any other
provisions hereof.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation, whichever
comes earlier.

Approved.