Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6263

Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the Republic of the Philippines, it is clearly stated that all Local Government Units (LGUs) shall endeavor to be self-sufficient and shall continue exercising the powers and functions to discharge the duties and responsibilities conferred upon them. They shall also discharge the roles and tasks of national agencies and offices devolved to them in accordance with this Code.

All Local Government Units shall likewise implement such other powers and discharge such other functions as are necessary, appropriate, or incidental to efficient and effective provisions of the basic services and facilities.

Nonetheless, while barangay health workers are the ones spearheading in providing health care services to the local community, up to this day, there is no existing program to secure that all barangays are equipped with the services within their own barangay health worker.

This House Bill seeks to provide a Magna Carta for Barangay health workers. To fortify the capacity of barangays to deliver basic health services to the community while giving barangay health workers their hard-earned entitlements and benefits.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

MICHAEL L. ROMERO
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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AN ACT
CREATING THE MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, INCREASING THEIR BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. TITLE - This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Health Workers Act of 2020"

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. - It is hereby a declared policy of the state, under the 1987 Constitution:

a) The State shall foster the policies accordingly to the utmost importance, to the health necessities of the nation.

b) The State shall promote the vital goods, health and social services to all at reasonable cost.
c) The State shall provide manageable, fast and quality health services to all individuals through the appropriate primary stations down to the barangay level. The State shall safeguard the transport and delivery of all barangay health goods and services.

d) The State shall assure the employment of a health worker in every barangay as forefront.

SECTION 3. SCOPE – This Act shall be effective to all barangay health workers accredited, qualified and empowered to act, as such by the local health board in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Health (DOH).

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERM - For 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 institution to render health care services.

SECTION 5. BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER - There shall be in each barangay at least Eight (8) barangay health workers,

Provided that the total number of barangay health workers per barangay shall in no case exceed more than One percent (1%) of the barangay's total population.

SECTION 6. APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS - The barangay health worker as accredited and recommended by the municipal or city health board in accordance with the provisions of RA7883, otherwise known as the barangay health workers and benefits act of 1995, shall be appointed by the municipal or city mayor where such barangay health worker shall be appointed.
A barangay health worker shall be entitled to allowances and such other benefits to which other appointed barangay officials may be entitled.

No person duly appointed as a barangay health worker shall be removed except for valid cause as provided under prevailing civil service rules and regulations and only after due notice and hearing.

SECTION 7. BENEFITS. – All Barangay health workers, 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 Act, but in no case shall it be less than One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) per month:

Provided, however that the annual appropriations for personal services shall be subject to the budgetary limitations prescribed under section 5 of this Act;

Provided, that that the benefits provided by this Act shall be without prejudice to the application of and entitlement to other incentives and benefits for barangay health workers as may be provided by law, such as RA6942 and RA7883, otherwise known as the barangay health workers benefits and incentives act.

CHAPTER II
SUPPLETORY PROVISIONS

SECTION 8. TRANSITORY PROVISION – Existing industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six (6) months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 9. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The departments and agencies charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act
shall, within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

CHAPTER III
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 10. 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.

SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,