

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9613



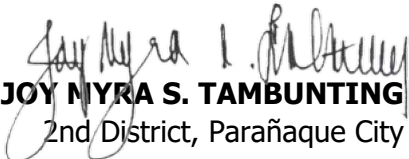
Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) reports that 95 children die in the Philippines every day due to under-nutrition. According to the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI), around 31.2% of Filipino children aged 5-10 are underweight, 31.1 % are under height or stunted. Amongst children who are aged 0-2, around 26.2% are undernourished, and about 33.5% of children below the age of five suffer from stunting.

This bill is proposed with the aim of ensuring that every barangay can adequately address the problem of malnutrition within their communities. This measure provides for the creation of one mandatory position of Barangay Nutrition Worker in every barangay to address the malnutrition problem that afflicts the vulnerable groups in our communities, particularly preschool, school children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. This bill aims to reduce the prevalence rate of malnutrition among moderate and severe preschoolers and school children. Further, it seeks to professionalize the position of barangay nutrition worker (BNW) by requiring the qualification to be at least a K-12 graduate.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

AN ACT
CREATING THE POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY PROVIDING INCENTIVES THERETO, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1569

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

Section 1. Presidential Decree No. 1569 (P.D. No. 1569) entitled "Strengthening the Barangay Nutrition Program by providing for a Nutrition Scholar in Every Barangay" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. **BARANGAY NUTRITION PROGRAM.** To strengthen the Barangay Nutrition Program, there shall be **CREATED** under the administration and **SUPERVISION of the NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL IN COORDINATION WITH THE CITY or MUNICIPALITY and the BARANGAY, ONE (1) MANDATORY POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY WITH A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P 5,000.00).**

"Sec. 2. **BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER.** The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be **APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAJORITY OF ALL SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OR THE SANGGUNIANG Panlungsod MEMBERS, THE SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY CONCERNED AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL.** The barangay nutrition worker shall be responsible for delivering nutrition services and other related activities such as community health, backyard food production, environmental sanitation, culture, supplemental feeding and family planning to the barangay.

"Sec. 3. SERVICES. The barangay nutrition worker, while [continuously learning] **UNDERGOING ACTUAL TRAINING** under this program, shall serve the barangay on a voluntary basis for at least a [period of one year] **SIX MONTHS. THEREAFTER, THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL SHALL ASSESS HIS/ HER PERFORMANCE AND MAKE THE NECESSARY RECOMMENDATION FOR HIS/HER APPOINTMENT.**

"Sec. 4. QUALIFICATION. The qualifications of a Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be as follows:

- a) Bonafide resident of the barangay for at least one (1) year, with ability to speak the dialect;
- b) Possession of leadership potentials and the initiative and willingness to serve the barangay [for at least one year];
- c) Willingness to learn and to teach what he/she learned to the barangay people;
- d) At least a [primary] **HIGH SCHOOL** graduate **UNDER THE K-12 PROGRAM;**
- e) Physical and mental fitness and;
- f) At least eighteen (18) years old but not more than sixty (60) years old.

"Sec. 5. RECRUITMENT. The barangay nutrition worker shall be recruited from within the barangay and shall be tested on mental ability and proper work attitude.

"Sec. 6. TRAINING. Before actual barangay service, the barangay nutrition worker shall undergo a ten-day training on selected topics such as nutrition, health, food production and environmental sanitation, based on defined task expectations to be conducted by a provincial training team in coordination with the municipal and barangay nutrition committee. This training shall be supplemented by a twenty-day practicum to be conducted in the barangay where the worker is assigned, and such activity shall be in coordination with the local training team.

"Sec. 7. BENEFITS. The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be entitled to a training stipend, meal and travel allowance of at least P250.00 a day. **DURING THE PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT AS BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER, THE WORKER SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ALLOWANCE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (Php 5,000.00) A MONTH.** The Barangay Nutrition Worker shall be granted a civil service eligibility equivalent to second grade alter at least five (5) years of continuous and satisfactory service in the barangay.

"Sec. 8. INCENTIVES. TO FURTHER ENHANCE THE PROGRAM, THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL FORMULATE A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WHERE INCUMBENT AND DESERVING BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS SHALL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO AVAIL OF A SCHOLARSHIP GRANT IN ANY STATE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY AND PURSUE A COURSE RELEVANT TO THE PRESENT POSITION.

"Sec. 9. NUTRITION COMMITTEES. The implementation of this project shall be the total responsibility of a Provincial/City/Municipal Nutrition Committee headed by the Governor/City/Municipal Mayor as Chairman.

"Sec. 10. LOCAL TRAINING TEAM. The local training team shall be composed of two members chosen from among the 2 members of the Provincial/City/Municipal Nutrition Committee. This team shall follow up the activities of the trained barangay nutrition worker.

"Sec. 11. ROLE OF THE MAYOR. The City/Municipal Mayor shall initiate activities to implement this project within the City or Municipality, organize the local training teams and may recommend the appropriation by his city/municipality of a local counterpart in the form of additional allowance for the barangay nutrition worker.

"Sec. 12. BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKERS STAFF SECRETARIAT. There shall be a staff secretariat in every province/city/municipality which shall monitor the progress of the program, identify its problems and recommend possible solutions thereto.

"Sec. 13. NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL. The National Nutrition Council shall formulate rules and regulations, plans and programs within the limits set forth in this Act, allocate the funds for this project to the various provinces and/or agencies, for disbursement in accordance with the financial plan of the Barangay Nutrition Workers Project.

"Sec. 14. DONATIONS. For the purposes of this Program, the National Nutrition Council and the local governments, are authorized to receive grants; donations, gifts or bequests from various government agencies and government corporations which shall be tax exempt.

"Sec. 15. APPROPRIATIONS. The amount of Fifty Million Pesos out of any available funds from the National Treasury or from the Special Activities Funds is hereby appropriated and authorized to be released for the organization and initial operation of the Council and the local governments

for the purposes of this program. Local governments are likewise authorized to appropriate such amount necessary for the successful implementation of this program. **PROVIDED, THAT THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY SHALL APPROPRIATE AS PART OF ITS ANNUAL BUDGET FOR PERSONAL SERVICES THE NECESSARY AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P 1,000.00) PER MONTH PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER, PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THIRD TO FIFTH CLASS MUNICIPALITIES SHALL APPROPRIATE FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P 500.00) PER MONTH PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER. THE DIFFERENCE IN THE FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P 5,000.00) MONTHLY ALLOWANCE PER BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA) FOR THE YEAR FOLLOWING ITS ENACTMENT."**

Sec. 2. Separability Clause. – If any of the provisions or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions or parts hereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Sec. 3. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders or any part thereof which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 4. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect upon publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,