



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5228

BY REPRESENTATIVES OCAMPOS, ASILO, OLIVAREZ, LEONEN-PIZARRO,
OBILLO, CASTELO, CO AND CABALUNA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT
NO. 1363

AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS TO BARANGAY VOLUNTEER WORKERS

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Barangay
2 Volunteer Workers’ Benefits Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the
4 State to enhance and promote the social and economic status of barangay
5 volunteers. The State shall protect the rights of barangay volunteers and
6 promote their welfare.

7 SEC. 3. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover all members of accredited
8 civilian volunteer organizations (CVOs) and all other volunteers who perform
9 regular governance or service functions in the barangay.

10 SEC. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following
11 shall mean:

12 (a) *Civilian volunteer organization (CVO)* shall refer to a body or
13 brigade composed of barangay volunteers such as, but not limited to, barangay
14 health workers, barangay nutrition scholars, barangay tanod, members of the

1 lupong tagapamayapa, and members of community brigade and community
2 service units duly created at the barangay level to assist the barangay officials
3 in the effective exercise of law enforcement for the maintenance of peace and
4 order and the promotion of public safety, security, health, social welfare and
5 the spirit of volunteerism in the barangay.

6 (b) *Barangay volunteer workers* shall refer to individuals who belong
7 to an accredited CVO committed to rendering their services and resources,
8 whether full-time or part-time, to promote the public good.

9 (c) *Volunteerism* shall refer to an act involving traditional forms of
10 mutual aid and developmental interventions that provides an enabling and
11 empowering environment, both on the part of the beneficiary receiving and
12 the volunteer rendering the act, undertaken for reasons arising from
13 socio-developmental commitment or conviction for the attainment of public
14 good and where monetary and other incentives are not the primary motivating
15 factors.

16 SEC. 5. *Qualifications.* – A barangay volunteer must be of legal age,
17 must be a resident of the barangay where one intends to volunteer and must be
18 of good moral character. A barangay volunteer may continue to serve the
19 community for as long as one wishes to, and able to maintain these
20 qualifications, and if such performance as a volunteer is considered
21 commendable by barangay officials.

22 SEC. 6. *Duties and Obligations of a Barangay Volunteer.* – The
23 barangay volunteer worker shall:

24 (a) Make available time, knowledge and skills to the barangay and
25 report for work as agreed with barangay officials;

26 (b) Maintain and promote peace, public safety, security, health, social
27 welfare and the spirit of volunteerism in the barangay;

1 (c) Discharge duty humanely with conscience and dignity, and with
2 utmost respect for life, gender and religion; and

3 (d) Submit a written resignation when one wishes to resign at least
4 fifteen (15) days prior to effectivity thereof.

5 SEC. 7. *Statutory Fund Allocation for the Allowance of Barangay*
6 *Volunteers.* – The barangay shall provide allowances to barangay volunteers,
7 which may not exceed the minimum salary rate for Salary Grade 1: *Provided,*
8 That no volunteer shall receive an allowance lower than One thousand five
9 hundred pesos (P1,500.00) per month.

10 Said allowances shall be charged to the administrative budget of the
11 barangay, which comprise eighty percent (80%) of its annual internal revenue
12 allotment, and income from other sources: *Provided, further,* That these shall
13 not be covered by the fifty-five percent (55%) cap on Personal Services:
14 *Provided, finally,* That the payment of said allowances shall be subject to the
15 availability of funds and pertinent budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and
16 regulations.

17 SEC. 8. *Security of Term.* – A barangay volunteer shall be asked to
18 sign a memorandum of agreement (MOA) defining the period of service,
19 reckoned from the date of the volunteer's assignment. This MOA may be
20 renewed upon the agreement of the volunteer, the CVO and the barangay
21 chairperson.

22 SEC. 9. *Additional Benefits.* – In recognition of their services, barangay
23 volunteers shall be provided the following benefits and incentives:

24 (a) PhilHealth coverage which shall include medical examination and
25 treatment in government hospitals and fully subsidized by the local government
26 units (LGUs) or through cost-sharing mechanisms between LGUs and other
27 sponsors: *Provided,* That indigent barangay volunteers shall be covered
28 through full national government subsidy scheme;

1 (b) Free legal services from government lawyers or private lawyers
2 pursuant to Republic Act No. 9999 and Bar Matter No. 2012 for cases arising
3 from acts committed in the performance of duty: *Provided*, That such legal
4 services shall continue, even after the expiration of the term of the barangay
5 volunteer, until its final disposition; and

6 (c) Trainings and seminars on human rights, disaster response and risk
7 reduction and others, deemed necessary by the city or municipality where the
8 barangay volunteers render service.

9 SEC. 10. *Review by the Sangguniang Barangay.* – Every incentive or
10 benefit for barangay volunteers requiring expenditure of local funds shall be
11 reviewed and approved by the sangguniang barangay.

12 SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of
13 the Interior and Local Government (DILG) – National Barangay Operations
14 Office (NBOO), in consultation with the National Liga ng mga Barangay and
15 CVOs, shall issue the rules and regulations to implement this Act within ninety
16 (90) days after its approval.

17 SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is
18 declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity
19 of the other provisions hereof.

20 SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders and issuances
21 or portion thereof, as well as rules and regulations inconsistent with the
22 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

23 SEC. 14. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
24 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general
25 circulation.

Approved,