



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8261

BY REPRESENTATIVES GARCIA (P.J.), GERON, TUPAS, TEJADA, GORRICETA, BARONDA, CRISOLOGO, SY-ALVARADO, NIETO, ERIGUEL, OLIVAREZ, CABOCHAN, VILLAFUERTE, TAMBUNTING, DAZA, VARGAS, CUEVA, ACOPI, BORDADO, CUARESMA, TY (D.), BRAVO, TAN (S.), BIAZON, EBCAS, PLAZA, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, REVILLA, LOYOLA, ARENAS, CHATTO, PADUANO, SARMIENTO, SIAO, BUSTOS, AGABAS AND MACEDA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 699

AN ACT

LOWERING THE MINIMUM HEIGHT REQUIREMENT AND REMOVING THE HEIGHT WAIVER FOR APPLICANTS TO THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP), BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP), AND BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS (BUCOR), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8551, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9263, AS AMENDED, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10575

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “PNP, BFP, BJMP and
2 BuCor Height Equality Act”.

3 **SEC. 2.** Section 30 of Republic Act No. 6975, otherwise known as the “Department of
4 the Interior and Local Government Act of 1990”, as amended by Republic Act No. 8551,
5 otherwise known as the “Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998”,
6 is further amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 30. General Qualifications for Appointment.** – No person shall be appointed as
8 officer or member of the PNP unless he or she possesses the following minimum
9 qualifications:

- 10 “a) XXX...
11 “b) XXX...
12 “c) XXX...
13 “d) XXX...
14 “e) XXX...”

1 "f) XXX...

2 "g) XXX...

3 h) Must be at least one meter and [sixty-two] FIFTY-SEVEN centimeters [(1.62.
4 m.)] (1.57 M.) in height for male, and one meter and [fifty-seven] FIFTY-TWO
5 centimeters [(1.57 m.)] (1.52 M.) for female: *PROVIDED*, THAT APPLICANTS
6 BELONGING TO THE CULTURAL COMMUNITIES OR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
7 MUST BE AT LEAST ONE METER AND FIFTY-TWO CENTIMETERS (1.52 M) FOR
8 MALE, AND ONE METER AND FORTY-SEVEN CENTIMETERS (1.47 M.) FOR
9 FEMALE: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT THE HEIGHT REQUIREMENT FOR
10 CADETS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY (PNPA) SHALL BE
11 RETAINED AT ONE METER AND SIXTY-TWO CENTIMETERS (1.62 M.) FOR MALE,
12 AND ONE METER AND FIFTY-SEVEN CENTIMETERS (1.57 M.) FOR FEMALE.

13 "i) XXX...

14 "j) XXX...

15 "XXX..."

16 **SEC. 3.** Section 15 of Republic Act No. 8551, otherwise known as the "Philippine
17 National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998", is amended to read as follows:

18 "SEC. 15. *Waivers for Initial Appointments to the PNP.* – The age, [height,] weight, and
19 educational requirements for initial appointment to the PNP may be waived only when the
20 number of qualified applicants fall below the minimum annual quota: *Provided*, That an
21 applicant shall not be below twenty (20) nor over thirty-five (35) years of age: *Provided*,
22 *further*, That any applicant not meeting the weight requirement shall be given reasonable
23 time but not exceeding six (6) months within which to comply with the said requirement:
24 *Provided, furthermore*, That only applicants who have finished second year college or have
25 earned at least seventy-two (72) collegiate units leading to a bachelor's degree shall be
26 eligible for appointment: *Provided, furthermore*, That anybody who will enter the service
27 without a baccalaureate degree shall be given a maximum of four (4) years to obtain the
28 required educational qualification[: *Provided, finally*, That a waiver for height requirement
29 shall be automatically granted to applicants belonging to the cultural communities].

30 **SEC. 4.** Section 16 of Republic Act No. 8551, otherwise known as the "Philippine
31 National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998", is amended to read as follows:

32 "SEC. 16. *Selection Criteria Under the Waiver Program.* – The selection of applicants
33 under the Waiver Program shall be subject to the following minimum criteria:

34 a) XXX

35 b) The requirements shall be waived in the following order: (a) age, [(b) height, (c)] (B)
36 weight, and [(d)] (C) education.

37 The Commission shall promulgate rules and regulations to address other situations
38 arising from the waiver of the entry requirements.

39 **SEC. 5.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9263, otherwise known as the "Bureau of Fire
40 Protection and Bureau of Jail Management and Penology Professionalization Act of 2004",
41 as amended by Republic Act No. 9592, is further amended to read as follows:

1 "SEC. 4. *Professionalization and Upgrading of Qualification Standards in the*
2 *Appointment of Uniformed Personnel to the BFP and the BJMP.* – No person shall be
3 appointed as uniformed personnel of the BFP and the BJMP unless he/she possesses
4 the following minimum qualifications:

5 "a) XXX...

6 "b) XXX...

7 "c) XXX...

8 "d) XXX...

9 "e) XXX...

10 "f) XXX...

11 "g) XXX...

12 "h) Must be at least one meter and [sixty-two] FIFTY-SEVEN centimeters [(1.62
13 m.)] (1.57 M.) in height for male, and one meter and [fifty-seven] FIFTY-TWO
14 centimeters [(1.57 m.)] (1.52 M.) for female: *Provided*, That [a waiver for height and
15 age requirements shall be automatically granted to] applicants belonging to the cultural
16 communities OR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES MUST BE AT LEAST ONE METER AND
17 FIFTY-TWO CENTIMETERS (1.52 M) FOR MALE, AND ONE METER AND FORTY-
18 SEVEN CENTIMETERS (1.47 M.) FOR FEMALE; and

19 "i) XXX...

20 "Provided, That a new applicant must not be less than twenty-one (21) nor more
21 than thirty (30) years of age: *PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT A WAIVER OF AGE*
22 *REQUIREMENT SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY GRANTED TO APPLICANTS*
23 *BELONGING TO THE CULTURAL COMMUNITIES OR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES:*
24 *except for this particular provision, the above-enumerated qualifications shall be*
25 *continuing in character and an absence of any one of them at any given time shall be a*
26 *ground for separation or retirement from the service: Provided, further, That the*
27 *uniformed personnel who are already in the service prior to the effectivity of Republic*
28 *Act No. 9263 shall be given another five (5) years to obtain the minimum educational*
29 *qualification and appropriate civil service eligibility to be reckoned from the date of*
30 *effectivity of this Act: Provided, furthermore, That concerned BFP and BJMP members*
31 *who have rendered more than fifteen years of service at the time of the effectivity of*
32 *this Act shall no longer be required to comply with the aforementioned educational and*
33 *eligibility requirements. Likewise, those personnel who have acquired National Police*
34 *Commission (NAPOLCOM) eligibility prior to the effectivity of Republic Act No. 9263*
35 *shall no longer be required to obtain the appropriate civil service eligibility: Provided,*
36 *finally, That within the five-year extension period stipulated herein, the issue of*
37 *whether or not the BFP shall be devolved to local government units shall be revisited*
38 *by Congress, and as circumstances demand, be immediately implemented.*

39 "XXX..."

40 SEC. 6. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 10575, otherwise known as "The Bureau of
41 Corrections Act of 2013" is amended to read as follows:

1 "Section 11. *Professionalization and Upgrading of Qualification Standards in the*
2 *Appointment of the BuCor Personnel.* – (a) No person shall be appointed as personnel
3 of the BuCor unless one possesses the following minimum qualifications:

4 "(1) XXX...

5 "(2) XXX...

6 "(3) XXX...

7 "(4) XXX...

8 "(5) XXX...

9 "(6) XXX...

10 "(7) XXX...

11 "(8) Must be at least one meter and [sixty-two] FIFTY-SEVEN centimeters [(1.62
12 m.)] (1.57 M.) in height for male and one meter and [fifty-seven] FIFTY-TWO
13 centimeters [(1.57 m.)] (1.52 M.) for female: *Provided*, That [a waiver for height and
14 age requirement/s shall be automatically granted to] applicants belonging to the
15 cultural communities OR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES MUST BE AT LEAST ONE METER
16 AND FIFTY-TWO CENTIMETERS (1.52 M) FOR MALE, AND ONE METER AND
17 FORTY-SEVEN CENTIMETERS (1.47 M.) FOR FEMALE: *Provided, further*, That a
18 new applicant must not be less than twenty-one (21) or more than forty (40) years of
19 age: *PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE*, THAT A WAIVER OF AGE REQUIREMENT MAY
20 BE GRANTED TO APPLICANTS BELONGING TO THE CULTURAL COMMUNITIES
21 OR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES. Except for this particular provision, the above-
22 enumerated qualifications shall be continuing in character and an absence of any one
23 of them at any given time shall be ground for separation or retirement from the service:
24 *Provided, [furthermore] FINALLY*, That those who are already in the service upon the
25 effectivity of this Act shall be given five (5) years from the date of such effectivity to
26 obtain the minimum educational qualification and eligibility with subsidiary assistance
27 as provided for in this Act.

28 "(b) XXX...

29 "(c) XXX...

30 "(d) XXX..."

31 **SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from the
32 effectivity of this Act, the DILG and the DOJ shall, in coordination with the CSC, Napolcom,
33 the PNP, the BFP, the BJMP, and BuCor, promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to
34 implement this Act.

35 **SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part, section or provision of this Act is declared
36 invalid or unconstitutional, the section or provisions which are not affected shall remain valid
37 and subsisting.

38 **SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules, regulations, other
39 issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or
40 modified accordingly.

41 **SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
42 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,