

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1428

Submitted by the Committees on Local Government, Appropriations and Ways and Means on **January 25, 2022**

Re: House Bill No. **10699**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 22, 44, 165, 439, 536, 602, 670, 690, 763, 874, 1304, 1366, 1494, 1557, 1787, 2081, 2700, 3159, 3276, 3291, 3355, 3487, 3511, 3801, 3985, 4096, 4271, 4395, 4575, 5003, 5026, 5057, 5342, 5496, 6263, 6562, and 6629

Sponsors: Representatives Noel L. Villanueva, Angelica Natasha Co, Eric Go Yap, and Joey Sarte Salceda

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Local Government, Appropriations, and Ways and Means to which were referred House Bill No. 22 introduced by Representative Evelina G. Escudero, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING SECURITY OF TENURE FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 6 (D) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND
INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 44 introduced by Representative Jose Francisco “Kiko” B. Benitez, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS”**

House Bill No. 165 introduced by Representative Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte, entitled:

**“AN ACT
CREATING THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER EDUCATION AND TRAINING
PROGRAM, INCREASING COMPENSATION AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR
BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER (BHW), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 439 introduced by Representative Strike B. Revilla, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING A FIXED MONTHLY HONORARIA AND ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO
ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE
SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 536 introduced by Representative Joseph Stephen S. Paduano, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING A FIXED MONTHLY HONORARIA AND ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO
ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE
SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 602 introduced by Representative Resurreccion M. Acop, entitled:

**“AN ACT
ORDAINING THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS INCENTIVE AND
DEVELOPMENT ACT (BIDA) OF 2019”**

House Bill No. 670 introduced by Representative Ron P. Salo, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS TO BARANGAY HEALTH
WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.
7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS
AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 690 introduced by Representative Stella Luz Quimbo, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING A FIXED MONTHLY HONORARIA AND ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO
ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE
SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 763 introduced by Representative Ruffy Biazon, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING ALLOWANCES TO BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS**

THE “BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

House Bill No. 874 introduced by Representative John Reynald M. Tiangco, entitled:

**“AN ACT
MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN BARANGAYS, AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 1304 introduced by Representative Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte, Jr., entitled:

**“AN ACT
TO IMPROVE AND TO PROMOTE QUALITY DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES IN BARANGAYS, ENACTING THE “BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND SERVICES REFORM ACT OF 2016”**

House Bill No. 1366 introduced by Representative Ferdinand L. Hernandez, entitled:

**“AN ACT
CREATING THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM, INCREASING COMPENSATION AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER (BHWS), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 1494 introduced by Representative Angelica “Helen” D.L. Tan, entitled:

**“AN ACT
MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF AT LEAST ONE (1) BARANGAY HEALTH WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OR THE “LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991” AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 1557 introduced by Representative Julienne “Jam” L. Baronda, entitled:

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

House Bill No. 1787 introduced by Representative Jumel Anthony I. Espino, entitled:

“AN ACT

GRANTING INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS TO BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

House Bill No. 2081 introduced by Representative Jose “Kuya” Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS”**

House Bill No. 2700 introduced by Representative Marisol C. Panotes, entitled:

**“AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS (BHWs), PROVIDING A MONTHLY HONORARIUM, IN ADDITION TO INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS GRANTED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 3159 introduced by Representatives Shernee A. Tan-Tambut and Samier A. Tan, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS (BHWs), A MONTHLY HONORARIUM, IN ADDITION TO INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 3276 introduced by Representative Yedda Marie K. Romualdez and Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, entitled:

**“AN ACT
MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN EVERY BARANGAY, PROVIDING FOR THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 3291 introduced by Representative Alfred Vargas, entitled:

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

House Bill No. 3355 introduced by Representative Joel Mayo Z. Almario, entitled:

“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”

House Bill No. 3487 introduced by Representative Ferdinand L. Hernandez, entitled:

“AN ACT

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

House Bill No. 3511 introduced by Representative Sol Aragonés, entitled:

“AN ACT

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

House Bill No. 3801 introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodríguez, entitled:

“AN ACT

MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE (1) HEALTH WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY, INCREASING THEIR SALARIES AND BENEFITS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

House Bill No. 3985 introduced by Representative Angelica Natasha Co, entitled:

“AN ACT

STRENGTHENING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING THE BARANGAY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROGRAM, PROVIDING SECURITY OF TENURE, BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

House Bill No. 4096 introduced by Representative Micahel T. Defensor, entitled:

**“AN ACT
REGULARIZING BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND PROVIDING SALARIES
THEREOF”**

House Bill No. 4271 introduced by Representative Aleta C. Suarez, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING STANDARDIZED BENEFITS TO BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 6
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “BARANGAY HEALTH
WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 4395 introduced by Representative Antonio G. Calixto, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING A FIXED MONTHLY HONORARIA AND ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO
ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE
SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 4575 introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING SECURITY OF TENURE FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 6 (D) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND
INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 5003 introduced by Representative Henry S. Oaminal, entitled:

**“AN ACT
GRANTING A MONTHLY HONORARIUM TO ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH
WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.
7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS
AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 5026 introduced by Representative Eric L. Olivarez, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS”**

House Bill No. 5057 introduced by Representative Tyrone D. Agabas, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING SECURITY OF TENURE FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 6 (D) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’ BENEFITS AND
INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995”**

House Bill No. 5342 introduced by Representative Johnny Ty Pimentel, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS”**

House Bill No. 5496 introduced by Representative John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, entitled:

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

House Bill No. 6263 introduced by Representative Michael Odylon L. Romero, entitled:

**“AN ACT
CREATING THE MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS,
AMENDING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, INCREASING THEIR BENEFITS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 6562 introduced by Representatives Ferdinand R. Gaité, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, France L. Castro, Arlene D. Brosas, and Sarah Jane I. Elago, entitled:

**“AN ACT
MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS,
PROVIDING FOR THEIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING, DUTIES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”**

and House Bill No. 6629 introduced by Representative Manuel D. Cabochan III, entitled:

**“AN ACT
MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN EVERY
BARANGAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE” FURTHER**

EXPANDING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 10699 entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS”**

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 22, 44, 165, 439, 536, 602, 670, 690, 763, 874, 1304, 1366, 1494, 1557, 1787, 2081, 2700, 3159, 3276, 3291, 3355, 3487, 3511, 3801, 3985, 4096, 4271, 4395, 4575, 5003, 5026, 5057, 5342, 5496, 6263, 6562, and 6629 with Representatives Escudero, Benitez, Belmonte, Revilla, Paduano, Acop, Salo, Quimbo, Biazon, Tiangco, Villafuerte, Jr., Hernandez, Tan (A), Baronda, Espino, Sy-Alvarado, Panotes, Tan-Tambut, Tan (S), Romualdez (Y.M.), Romualdez (F.M.), Vargas, Almario, Aragonese, Rodriguez (R), Co (A.N.), Defensor, Suarez (A), Calixto, Oaminal, Olivarez, Agabas, Pimentel, Nieto, Romero (M.O.), Gaité, Zarate, Castro (F.), Brosas, Elago, Cabochan III, Dalipe, Bagatsing, Silverio, Dy V, Plaza, Sinsuat, Babasa, Chungalao, Dalog, Gasataya, De los Santos, Garcia III, Loyola, Sagarbarria, Villanueva (N.), Salceda, Tejada, Suansing (E.), Suansing Jr. (H.), Nograles (J.J.), Ebcas, Mendoza (R.), Go (M.), Castro (F.), Acosta-Alba, Gaité, Garin, Yu (D.G.), Tambunting, Calderon, Dagooc, Lacson, Violago, Fortun, Padiernos, Crisologo, Legarda, Canama, Ong (R.), Savellano, Haresco Jr., Garcia (P.J.), Gorriceta, Reyes (A.B.), Gullas, Ecleo, Deloso-Montalla, Tan (A.S.), Dy III (F.M.), Fuentebella, Villa, Fariñas (R.C.), Nolasco Jr., Salimbangon, Bascug, Chipeco Jr., Go Yap (E.) Abante Jr., Atienza Jr., Ermita-Buhain, Bautista-Bandigan, Daza (P.R.), Fariñas I (R.C.), Go (E.C.), Limkaichong, Matugas II, Abunda, Barba, Bordado, Jr., Cari, Dujali, Espina, Jr., Maceda, Ong Jr. (J.), Ortega, Vergara, Aglipay, Arroyo, Cabochan III, Elago, Erice, Ordanes, and Romulo (R.) as authors.

Respectfully submitted:



NOEL L. VILLANUEVA
Chairperson
Committee on Local Government



JOEY SARTE SALCEDA
Chairperson
Committee on Ways and Means



ERIC GO YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

**THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10699

Introduced By: Escudero, Benitez, Belmonte, Revilla, Paduano, Acop, Salo, Quimbo, Biazon, Tiangco, Villafuerte, Jr., Hernandez, Tan (A), Baronda, Espino, Sy-Alvarado, Panotes, Tan-Tambut, Tan (S), Romualdez (Y.M.), Romualdez (F.M.), Vargas, Almario, Aragonés, Rodriguez (R), Co (A.N.), Defensor, Suarez (A), Calixto, Oaminal, Olivarez, Agabas, Pimentel, Nieto, Romero (M.O.), Gaité, Zarate, Castro (F.), Brosas, Elago, Cabochan III, Dalipe, Bagatsing, Silverio, Dy V, Plaza, Sinsuat, Babasa, Chungalao, Dalog, Gasataya, De los Santos, Garcia III, Loyola, Sagarbarria, Villanueva (N.), Salceda, Tejada, Suansing (E.), Suansing Jr. (H.), Nograles (J.J.), Ebcas, Mendoza (R.), Go (M.), Castro (F.), Acosta-Alba, Gaité, Garin, Yu (D.G.), Tambunting, Calderon, Dagooc, Lacson, Violago, Fortun, Padiernos, Crisologo, Legarda, Canama, Ong (R.), Savellano, Haresco Jr., Garcia (P.J.), Gorriceta, Reyes (A.B.), Gullas, Ecleo, Deloso-Montalla, Tan (A.S.), Dy III (F.M.), Fuentebella, Villa, Fariñas (R.C.), Nolasco Jr., Salimbangon, Bascug, Chipeco Jr., Go Yap (E.) Abante Jr., Atienza Jr., Ermita-Buhain, Bautista-Bandigan, Daza (P.R.), Fariñas I (R.C.), Go (E.C.), Limkaichong, Matugas II, Abunda, Barba, Bordado, Jr., Cari, Dujali, Espina, Jr., Maceda, Ong Jr. (J.), Ortega, Vergara, Aglipay, Arroyo, Cabochan III, Elago, Erice, Ordanes, and Romulo (R.)

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS

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 "*Magna Carta of Barangay*
2 *Health Workers*".

3 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy***. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and
4 promote the right to health of people and adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health
5 development. Pursuant thereto, it shall endeavor to make essential goods, healthcare, and other
6 social services available to all the people. In line with the country's commitment to accomplish
7 health indicator targets under United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the State
8 shall adopt policies that promote the welfare and well-being of barangay health workers who are
9 the forefront of the delivery of health care at the grassroots level, and which shall effectively
10 harness their potential as partners in development.

11 **SEC. 3. *Definition***. – As used in this Act, the term "*barangay health worker*" refers to a
12 person who has undergone training under any accredited government and non-government

1 organization and who voluntarily renders primary healthcare services in the community after
2 having been accredited to function as such by the local health board in accordance with the
3 guidelines promulgated by the Department of Health (DOH) pursuant to Section 3 of Republic Act
4 No. 7883 otherwise known as the “Barangay Health Workers’ Benefits and Incentives Act of
5 1995.”

6 **SEC. 4. Registration.** – Barangay health workers (BHWs) shall be registered with the local
7 health board in the city or municipality in which they render service. The registered health workers
8 shall be given appropriate proof of said registration.

9 The municipal and city health offices shall regularly maintain and update the BHW Registry
10 with the assistance of the BHW Federation and shall submit the same to the municipal or city
11 health board. The local health offices shall submit a copy of their respective updated BHW registry
12 to the Provincial Health Office which shall consolidate all registries. Upon the validation of the
13 Provincial BHW Federation, the consolidated Provincial Registry shall be submitted to the
14 Provincial Health Board, and the same shall be posted in the municipal or city bulletin boards and
15 barangay health centers.

16 The Provincial BHW Registry shall be submitted on or before April 30 of every year to the
17 DOH at the regional and national levels for consolidation. The DOH is hereby mandated to
18 maintain a national register of BHWs.

19 In order to qualify for registration, a barangay health worker must:

- 20 A. Have rendered basic community health care services continuously and
21 satisfactorily for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the filing
22 of application for registration in the barangay as certified by the Rural Health
23 Midwife (RHM) or public health nurse assigned to the barangay and by the head of
24 the barangay health workers association;
- 25 B. Have completed the basic orientation and training for BHWs as prescribed by the
26 DOH and conducted by an accredited government agency, or DOH-recognized
27 academic institution, or non-governmental organization (NGO);
- 28 C. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the date of the filing of the application for
29 registration; and,
- 30 D. Be physically and mentally fit.

31 It shall be the duty of the municipal and city health offices, in cooperation with the Provincial
32 Health Office and DOH, to provide the BHW applicants with basic orientation and training within
33 six (6) months from the date of approval of their application.

34 **SEC. 5. Accreditation.** - To further professionalize the health care services rendered by the
35 BHWs and ensure the health and welfare of the community, a duly registered BHW must be
36 accredited by the municipal or city health board.

1 The municipal or city health board shall issue the certificate of accreditation to qualified
2 BHWs. In order to qualify for accreditation, the applicant BHW must:

- 3 A. Be registered in accordance with Section 4 hereof;
- 4 B. Have completed in the locality at least two (2) years of continuous and
5 satisfactory service immediately prior to the filing of application for
6 accreditation;
- 7 C. Have completed a regular training program on health care service and
8 community-based health program, that would upgrade and develop the skills and
9 competency of BHWs to perform their roles. The training program shall be
10 institutionalized by the DOH, in cooperation with local government units.

11 It shall be the duty of the municipal and city LGUs, in cooperation with the provincial
12 government and the DOH, to provide the applicant BHWs the necessary support and opportunities
13 for accreditation.

14 A BHW must complete the regular training program on health care service and community-
15 based health program within five (5) years from registration.

16 The municipal and city health boards or through their registration and accreditation
17 committee shall act on the applications for accreditation of BHWs not than later thirty (30) days
18 from the date of application.

19 The DOH shall also maintain an updated roster of accredited BHWs that is accessible to the
20 general public.

21 **SEC. 6. *Number and Role of Barangay Health Workers.*** – Notwithstanding the
22 limitations prescribed under Section 325 (a) of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise
23 known as the Local Government Code of 1991, each barangay shall at least have one (1) BHW for
24 every twenty (20) households.

25 As one of the key partners in a reformed health care delivery system, the DOH and LGUs
26 shall support the roles of BHWs as:

- 27 a) Advocate - to support, promote and champion current health programs,
28 projects, and activities to improve access to quality health services towards the
29 improved health status of the community
- 30 b) Educator - to guide and advise the community on the current DOH and health
31 priorities of LGUs such as importance of birth plan and facility-based delivery
32 in reducing maternal and infant deaths; newborn screening for the early
33 detection of congenital metabolic disorders which may leads to mental
34 retardation and even death, among others;
- 35 c) Disseminator - to maintain regular communication with local professional
36 health workers on health events and updates and concerns relevant to the

1 community and inform the same to the community for appropriate action, if
2 necessary;

- 3 d) Coordinator - to facilitate access to any group or association of the community
4 with a relevant network of or specific health and non-health service providers;
- 5 e) Record Keeper - to maintain updated records of health data, health activities
6 and events in the community;
- 7 f) Health Care Service Provider – to assist and provide basic health care services
8 as may be needed in the community in any health event.

9 A BHW shall not be required to engage in any partisan political activity.

10 **SEC. 7. *Mandatory Appointment of Barangay Health Worker (BHW).*** - There shall be
11 appointed at least one (1) BHW in every barangay for every twenty (20) households) who shall be
12 under the supervision and control of the DOH. The BHW so appointed shall coordinate closely
13 with the local government health officer in the implementation of health programs in the locality.
14 As far as practicable, the BHW to be employed must be a resident of the barangay.

15 The DOH shall determine the ratio of barangay health workers according to the number of
16 households: *Provided*, That there shall be at least one (1) BHW for every twenty (20) households:
17 *Provided, further*, That the total number of barangay health workers nationwide shall not be less
18 than one percent (1%) of the total population.

19 **SEC. 8. *Incentives and Benefits.*** - All BHWs who are actively and regularly performing
20 their duties shall be entitled to monthly honoraria in the amount of not less than Three thousand
21 pesos (P3,000.00) subject to adjustment based on the prevailing market value, in addition to the
22 following incentives and benefits:

- 23 (a) *Privileges for the BHWs.* – All accredited BHWs shall be entitled to twenty percent
24 (20%) discount on all the items enumerated under Section 4 (a) of Republic Act No.
25 9994 otherwise known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010: *Provided*, That
26 the privileges shall not be claimed if the BHW is eligible for a higher discount that
27 may be granted by the commercial establishment or other existing laws.

28
29 The commercial establishment may claim the discount granted under this section as
30 tax deduction based on the cost of goods sold or services rendered: *Provided*, that the
31 discount shall be allowed as deduction from the gross income for the same taxable
32 year that the discount is granted: *Provided further*, that the total amount of the
33 claimed tax deduction net of value-added tax, if applicable, shall be included in their
34 gross sales receipt for tax purposes and shall be subject to proper documentation and
35 to the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, asamended.

- 36
37 (b) *Hazard Allowance.* – All accredited BHWs shall be entitled to hazard allowance in an
38 amount to be determined by the local health board of the local government unit

1 concerned, which in no case shall be less than One thousand pesos (P1,000.00) per
2 month, subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations;

3 (c) *Subsistence Allowance.* – All accredited BHWs who render service within the premises
4 of isolated barangay health stations shall be entitled to subsistence allowance
5 equivalent to the meals they take in the course of their duty, which shall be computed
6 in accordance with prevailing circumstances as determined by the local government
7 unit concerned. such allowance shall, in no case, be less than One hundred pesos
8 (P100.00) per day;

9 (d) *Transportation Allowance.* – All accredited BHWs, in the performance of their official
10 duties, shall be entitled to a transportation allowance of not less than One thousand
11 pesos (P1,000.00) per month, subject to auditing rules and regulations;

12 (e) *One-time Retirement Cash Incentive* – An accredited BHW who has continuously and
13 satisfactorily served for at least fifteen (15) years shall be entitled to a one-time
14 retirement cash incentive of not less than Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) in
15 recognition of their loyalty and dedication, which shall be borne by the municipality
16 or city concerned. The provincial government may provide assistance for this purpose,
17 in the case of component cities;

18 (f) *Training, Education and Career Enrichment Programs.* - The DOH shall, in
19 coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher
20 Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
21 (TESDA), DOH-recognized academic institutions, other concerned agencies and non-
22 government organizations, provide information on and opportunities for education and
23 career enrichment for accredited BHWs, such as in the following programs:

- 24 1) Educational programs which credit the years of primary health care service
25 of the BHW towards higher education completion in institutions with
26 stepladder curricula thus allowing them to upgrade their skills and
27 knowledge for community work or to pursue further training as midwives,
28 pharmacists, nurses or doctors;
- 29 2) Continuing education, study and exposure tours, grants, field immersion,
30 and scholarships, among others;
- 31 3) Scholarship benefits in the form of tuition fees in state colleges, to be granted
32 to one (1) child of every barangay health worker who will not be able to take
33 advantage of the ~~above~~ programs described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3)
34 hereof; and
- 35 4) Special training programs such as traditional medicine, disaster
36 preparedness and other programs that address emergent community health
37 problems and issues.

1 (g) *Health Benefits.* – All accredited BHWs shall be entitled to the following health
2 benefits during their incumbency:

- 3 1. Free medical care, including surgery and surgical expenses medicines, x-ray
4 and other laboratory fees, when confined in any public hospital or health
5 institution;
- 6 2. Emergency assistance not exceeding the amount of Five thousand pesos
7 (P5,000.00) chargeable against the fund of the barangay concerned, for
8 expenses incurred in the nearest private hospital or clinic in case of extreme
9 emergency where there is no available public hospital;
- 10 3. Mandatory and immediate membership in the Philhealth as indirect
11 contributors.

12 The LGUs concerned shall also endeavor to provide other health benefits to
13 accredited BHWs not otherwise provided by law;

14 (h) *Insurance Coverage.* - Accredited BHWs shall be granted insurance coverage and
15 benefits by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) which shall be borne
16 by the LGU concerned. For this purpose, the GSIS shall design an insurance benefit
17 package suited to the needs and unique circumstances of the BHWs;
18

19 (i) *Sick, Vacation and Maternity Leaves.* – All accredited BHWs shall be entitled to sick,
20 vacation and maternity leaves as may be prescribed in the implementing rules and
21 regulations of this Act: *Provided*, that, the BHWs shall continue to receive their
22 monthly honoraria while on leave, for such period in accordance with existing laws
23 and practices.

24 (j) *Cash Gift* – All accredited BHWs are entitled to a cash gift not less than the minimum
25 monthly honoraria to be given every December from the general fund of the barangay
26 or from such other funds appropriated by the national government for the purpose;

27 (k) *Disability Benefit* – An accredited BHW who sustains an injury or falls ill in the
28 course of the performance of their duties shall be entitled to Two thousand pesos
29 (P2,000.00) for every year of service.

30 (l) *Civil Service Eligibility.* – A first grade eligibility shall be granted to accredited BHWs
31 who have rendered three (3) years continuous service as such: *Provided*, That should a
32 BHW become a regular employee of the government, the total numbers of years served as
33 such shall be credited to the BHW's service in the computation of retirement benefits.

34 No person duly accredited as a BHW shall be removed except for a valid cause to
35 be determined by the Local Health Board (LHB): *Provided*, That if found to be unjustly

1 removed from service, a BHW shall be entitled to reinstatement without loss of benefits
2 and incentives from the time of termination up to the time of his reinstatement. The LHB
3 shall resolve termination cases against a BHW judiciously not later than ninety (90) days
4 from the receipt of a complaint.

5 (l) *Free Legal Services.* - Legal representation and consultation services shall be
6 immediately provided by the Public Attorney's Office to a BHW in cases of coercion,
7 interference, and ~~in other~~ civil and criminal cases filed by or against the BHW arising out
8 of or in connection with the performance of their duties as such.

9 (m) *Preferential Access to Loan Facilities* - The DOH in coordination with other concerned
10 government agencies shall provide, within one hundred eighty (180) days after the
11 effectivity of this Act, a mechanism that shall provide organized BHWs access to loan
12 services. The agencies providing loan services will set aside one percent (1%) of their
13 loanable funds for organized BHW groups that have community-based income generating
14 projects in support of health programs or activities.

15 **SEC. 9. Review by the Local Health Board.** - Every incentive or benefit for BHWs
16 requiring expenditure of local funds shall be reviewed and approved by the LHB. Such benefits
17 and incentives may be increased, upon review of the LHB, after considering, among others, the
18 present Consumer Price Index (CPI) as published by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)."

19 **SEC. 10. Discrimination Prohibited.** – Discrimination against any BHW by reason of
20 gender, civil status, creed, religious or political beliefs and ethnic groupings in the exercise of their
21 functions and responsibilities is hereby prohibited.

22 **SEC. 11. Protection of BHWs.** – The municipal, city, provincial governments and the
23 Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall establish a grievance mechanism
24 as a means of processing complaints of BHWs against alleged acts of discrimination and unjust
25 removal from the service. A BHW may appeal their grievances to the DILG.

26 **SEC. 12. Right to Self-organization.** — A BHW shall have the right to freely form, join or
27 assist organizations to obtain redress of their grievances through peaceful concerted activities, in
28 a manner not contrary to law, and with utmost regard to service to patients and the continuous
29 operation of barangay health services in the interest of public health, safety, or survival of patients.

30 **SEC. 13. Representation in the Local Health Board and Primary Health Care Provider**
31 **Network.** — The president of the municipal or city association of BHWs shall be a member of the
32 municipal or city local health board. The presidents of the association of BHWs of each component
33 city and municipality associations of a province shall elect from among themselves their
34 representative to the provincial health board: *Provided, That,* the BHW representatives to the

1 health boards shall not be allowed to vote on the registration, accreditation and disciplinary or
2 removal complaints of BHWs.

3 The BHWs shall also form part of the health care provider network and shall participate in
4 the implementation of health care services and programs.

5 **SEC 14. *Continuous Capacity Building for BHWs.*** - The DOH shall conduct continuous
6 capacity building for BHWs to enhance and upgrade their knowledge and skills, including training
7 programs conducted online and in major Philippine dialects.

8 The DOH shall, in coordination with TESDA and other concerned agencies ~~shall~~ also assist
9 the LGUs in the development of education modules or materials that highlight the collective
10 experiences and learnings of BHWs and the use of traditional and complementary medicine.

11 The LGUs shall endeavor to establish their own training centers for ~~their~~ BHWs- and other
12 health workers in coordination with TESDA, NGOs, and other agencies concerned.

13 The LGUs shall also implement a development program for BHWs that will allow them to
14 benefit from ladderized training as provided under Republic Act No. 10968, otherwise known as
15 the Philippine Qualification Framework Act, and Republic Act No. 10647, otherwise known as
16 the Ladderized Education Act of 2014, including academic credits for health-related courses.

17 **SEC. 15. *Penalty Clause.*** - Any local government official who violates any provision of this
18 Act may be administratively and criminally charged in accordance with law.

19 **SEC. 16. *Appropriations.*** — The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall
20 be charged against the National Tax Allotment (NTA) of the LGUs, other local funds and the
21 special health fund under Republic Act No. 11223 otherwise known as the Universal Health Care
22 Act.

23 **SEC. 17. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.*** – The DOH and the DILG shall, in
24 consultation with the DepEd, the CSC, the GSIS, and other concerned government agencies and
25 non-governmental entities, promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act not later
26 than one hundred eighty days from the effectivity of this Act.

27 **SEC. 18. *Separability Clause.*** - If any portion or provision of this Act is declared invalid or
28 unconstitutional, other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

29 **SEC. 19. *Repealing Clause.*** – Republic Act No. 7883 otherwise known as the “*Barangay*
30 *Health Workers’ Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995*” is hereby repealed. All laws, decrees,
31 executive orders, rules and regulations, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed,
32 or modified accordingly.

33 **SEC. 20. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen days (15) after its publication in the
34 Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

1 *Approved,*

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