

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH (19th) CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5543



Introduced by **Hon. WILTER YAP PALMA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to increase the insurance benefits of local government officials and include the *sangguniang kabataan* member and barangay record keeper in the coverage thereof, amending for the purpose Republic Act No. 6942, entitled “*An Act Increasing the Insurance Benefits of Local Government Officials and Providing Funds Therefor*”.

The *sangguniang kabataan* (SK), plays a vital role in the empowerment of the youth in every local government unit in the country. The *sangguniang kabataan* member serves as the voice of youth participation in the council for local governance and gives the youth the privilege to be represented and be involved in societal affairs.

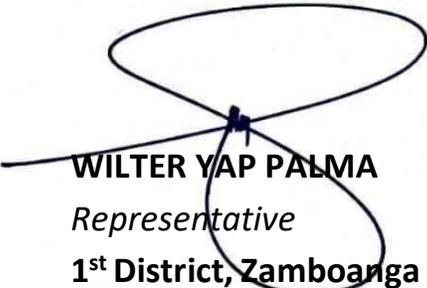
Under the Local Government Code of 1991, the SK member or *kagawad* is mandated to plan and implement policies, programs, projects and activities that enhance youth capabilities for nation-building. And since an SK member or *kagawad* acts as planner and policy maker for youth empowerment and development in the respective local government unit, the SK member or *kagawad* also deserves the same benefits received by other barangay officials.

Another *barangay* official that deserves the benefits enjoyed by other barangay officials is the *barangay* record keeper who plays a crucial role in barangay governance. The *barangay* record keeper is tasked to prepare several financial reports based on standard format that pertains to registries and status of appropriations, and commitments of government funds for submission to the municipal budget officer. The *barangay* record keeper sees to it that proper recording of entries is done, using the new *barangay* accounting system for proper monitoring of accounts.

It is important to note that RA 6942 was enacted in 1990, and after more than thirty (30) years, the value of the insurance benefits then has greatly diminished. The insurance benefits provided for under RA 6942 are now grossly insufficient for the needs of the covered officials and their families, especially this time of the COVID-19 pandemic when the economy is affected and the cost of fuel has tremendously increased. Increasing the insurance benefits would empower these barangay officials to perform their functions well, knowing that when illness, injuries or death occur, they and their families are well provided with sufficient insurance benefits to cover medical, burial and other related expenses.

Thus, there is a need to pass this measure to give recognition to our barangay officials for their untiring and genuine service to the people and their communities.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



WILTER YAP PALMA
Representative
1st District, Zamboanga Sibugay

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

NINETEENTH (19th) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5543

Introduced by **HON. WILTER YAP PALMA**

AN ACT
INCREASING THE INSURANCE BENEFITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND INCLUDING THE *SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN* MEMBER AND BARANGAY RECORDS KEEPER IN THE COVERAGE THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6942, ENTITLED “AN ACT INCREASING THE INSURANCE BENEFITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 6942 is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 “Section 1. *Coverage of the Act.* – Every punong barangay,
4 sangguniang barangay member, chairman of the kabataang barangay,
5 **SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN MEMBER**, barangay secretary
6 [~~and~~], barangay treasurer, **AND BARANGAY RECORDS**
7 **KEEPER** and every member of the sangguniang panlalawigan,
8 sangguniang panlungsod, and sangguniang bayan, duly elected or

9 appointed, and duly qualified, [~~who does not receive a fixed salary~~
10 ~~during his incumbency,~~] shall be automatically covered by this Act:
11 *Provided*, That the moment said official receives a fixed salary
12 [~~whether in the same capacity or~~] by virtue of a permanent
13 appointment in any other government office, or by election to another
14 public office, his coverage under this Act shall automatically cease
15 and shall then be covered under the appropriate law. Any of the
16 abovementioned local officials who shall automatically lose coverage
17 or cease to be covered by this Act by virtue of termination or
18 resignation from office for any lawful cause shall have the option to
19 continue the coverage by paying the required premiums thereon.”

20 SEC. 2. Section 2 of the same Act is amended to read as follows:

21 “SEC. 2. *Death and Burial Benefits.* – In the event of death of
22 an insured official during his incumbency, the beneficiaries of a punong
23 barangay or a member of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang
24 panlungsod or sangguniang bayan shall be entitled to [~~Twenty~~
25 **FORTY** thousand pesos [~~(P20,000.00)~~] **(P40,000.00)** while the
26 beneficiaries of a member of the sangguniang barangay, barangay
27 secretary, barangay treasurer [~~or~~], chairman of the kabataang barangay,
28 **SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN MEMBER AND BARANGAY**

29 **RECORD KEEPER** shall be entitled to [~~Ten~~] **TWENTY** thousand
30 pesos [~~(P10,000.00)~~] **(P20,000.00)**. In addition to the death benefits
31 [~~herein provided~~], a burial benefit of [~~Two~~] **FOUR** thousand pesos
32 [~~(P2,000.00)~~] **(P4,000.00)** shall be paid to the beneficiaries within
33 twenty-four (24) hours after written notice and satisfactory proof of
34 death.”

35 “Should a barangay chairman be assassinated or killed while in
36 the performance of [~~his~~] duties or on the occasion thereof, [~~his~~] **THE**
37 beneficiaries **OF THE BARANGAY CHAIRMAN** shall be entitled to
38 double the amounts of indemnity provided above.”

39 SEC. 3. Section 3 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

40 “SEC. 3. *Total and Permanent Incapacity or Disability.* – In
41 the event of total and permanent incapacity or disability as determined
42 by the Government Service Insurance System, hereinafter referred to
43 as the System, a punong barangay or a member of the sangguniang
44 panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod or sangguniang bayan shall be
45 entitled to [~~Twelve~~] **TWENTY-FOUR** thousand pesos [~~(P12,000.00)~~]
46 **(P24,000.00)** while a member of the sangguniang barangay, barangay
47 secretary, barangay treasurer [~~or~~], chairman of the kabataang barangay,
48 **SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN MEMBER AND BARANGAY**

49 **RECORD KEEPER** shall be entitled to [~~Five~~] **TEN** thousand pesos
50 [~~(P5,000.00)~~] **(P10,000.00)**: *Provided*, That the disability occurred
51 during his incumbency whether work-connected or not. In addition to
52 the disability benefits [~~herein provided~~], a burial benefit of [~~Two~~]
53 **FOUR** thousand pesos [~~(P2,000.00)~~] **(P4,000.00)** shall be paid to his
54 beneficiaries in the event that death occurs within two (2) years from
55 the onset of total and permanent incapacity or disability.”

56 “xxx.”

57 SEC. 4. Section 4 of the same Act is amended to read as follows:

58 “SEC. 4. *Injuries Resulting from Accidents.* – For injuries
59 resulting from an accident occurring during his incumbency, whether
60 work-connected or not, a punong barangay or a member of the
61 sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod, or sangguniang
62 bayan shall be entitled to the following benefits which in no case shall
63 exceed the maximum benefit of [~~Ten~~] **TWENTY** thousand pesos
64 [~~(P10,000.00)~~] **(P20,000.00)** per covered year:

65 “(a) For an injury to the brain resulting in the loss of sanity, [~~Ten~~]
66 **TWENTY** thousand pesos [~~(P10,000.00)~~] **(P20,000.00)**;

67 “(b) For permanent loss of sight in both eyes, [~~Ten~~] **TWENTY**
68 thousand pesos [~~(P10,000.00)~~] **(P20,000.00)**;

69 “(c) For permanent loss of sense of hearing in both ears, [~~Eight~~]
70 **SIXTEEN** thousand pesos [~~(P8,000.00)~~] (**P16,000.00**);

71 “(d) For permanent loss of sight in one eye, [~~Four~~] **NINE**
72 thousand five hundred pesos [~~(P4,500.00)~~] (**P9,000.00**);

73 “(e) For permanent loss of sense of smell and sense of taste, and
74 of hearing in one ear, [~~Four~~] **EIGHT** thousand pesos [~~(P4,000.00)~~]
75 (**P8,000.00**);

76 “(f) For the loss or destruction of two or more limbs, [~~Ten~~]
77 **TWENTY** thousand pesos [~~(P10,000.00)~~] (**P20,000.00**);

78 “(g) For the loss of one limb, [~~Five~~] **TEN** thousand pesos
79 [~~(P5,000.00)~~] (**P10,000**);

80 “(h) For the loss or destruction of both hands at or above the
81 wrists, [~~Eight~~] **SIXTEEN** thousand pesos [~~(P8,000.00)~~] (**P16,000.00**);

82 “(i) For the loss or destruction of both feet at or above the ankles,
83 [~~Eight~~] **SIXTEEN** thousand pesos [~~(P8,000.00)~~] (**P16,000.00**);

84 “(j) For the loss or destruction of one hand at or above the wrist,
85 [~~Four~~] **EIGHT** thousand pesos [~~(P4,000.00)~~] (**P8,000.00**);

86 “(k) For the loss or destruction of one foot at or above the ankle,
87 [~~Four~~] **EIGHT** thousand pesos [~~(P4,000.00)~~] (**P8,000.00**);

88 “(l) For the loss or destruction of every thumb or great toe,
89 ~~[One]~~**TWO** thousand pesos [~~(P1,000.00)~~] **(P2,000.00)**;

90 “(m) For the loss or destruction of every finger or toe, ~~[Five]~~
91 **ONE** ~~[hundred]~~ **THOUSAND** pesos [~~(P500.00)~~] **(P1,000.00)**;

92 “(n) For any other injury requiring hospitalization of at least
93 forty (40) days, ~~[Two]~~ **FOUR** thousand pesos [~~(P2,000.00)~~]
94 **(P4,000.00)**, and in cases where the hospitalization is less than forty
95 (40) days, at such amount not exceeding ~~[One]~~ **TWO** thousand pesos
96 ~~[(P1,000.00)]~~ **(P2,000.00)** as determined by the System and prescribed
97 in its rules and regulations issued pursuant to the provisions of this Act;
98 and

99 “(o) For any other injury not requiring hospitalization but
100 requiring medical attention for at least fifteen (15) days, ~~[One]~~ **TWO**
101 thousand pesos [~~(P1,000.00)~~] **(P2,000.00)**, and in cases where the
102 medical attention extended is less than fifteen (15) days, at such amount
103 not exceeding ~~[Five hundred]~~ **ONE THOUSAND** pesos [~~(P500.00)~~]
104 **(P1,000.00)** as determined by the System in its rules and regulations
105 issued pursuant to the provisions of this Act.”

106 SEC. 5. Section 5 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

107 “SEC. 5. *Injuries Resulting from Accident of other Barangay*
108 *Officials.* – For injuries resulting from an accident occurring during his
109 incumbency, whether work-connected or not, a member of the
110 sangguniang barangay, barangay secretary, barangay treasurer [~~or~~],
111 chairman of the kabataang barangay, **SANGGUNIANG**
112 **KABATAAN MEMBER AND BARANGAY RECORD KEEPER**
113 shall be entitled to the following benefits which in no case shall exceed
114 the maximum benefit of [~~Five~~] **TEN** thousand pesos [~~(P5,000.00)~~]
115 **(P10,000.00)** per covered year:

116 “(a) For an injury to the brain resulting in the loss of sanity,
117 [~~Five~~] **TEN** thousand pesos [~~(P5,000.00)~~] **(P10,000.00)**;

118 “(b) For permanent loss of sight in both eyes, [~~Five~~] **TEN**
119 thousand pesos [~~(P5,000.00)~~] **(P10,000.00)**;

120 “(c) For permanent loss of sense of hearing in both ears, [~~Four~~]
121 **EIGHT** thousand pesos [~~(P4,000.00)~~] **(P8,000.00)**;

122 “(d) For permanent loss of sight in one eye, [~~Three~~] **SIX**
123 thousand pesos [~~(P3,000.00)~~] **(P6,000.00)**;

124 “(e) For permanent loss of sense of hearing in one ear, [~~Two~~]
125 **FOUR** thousand **FIVE HUNDRED** [~~two hundred fifty~~] pesos
126 [~~(P2,250.00)~~] **(P4,500.00)**;

127 “(f) For the loss or destruction of two or more limbs, [~~Five~~] **TEN**
128 thousand pesos [~~(P5,000.00)~~] **(P10,000.00)**;

129 “(g) For the loss of one limb, [~~Two~~] **FIVE** thousand [~~five~~
130 ~~hundred~~] pesos [~~(P2,500.00)~~] **(P5,000.00)**;

131 “(h) For the loss or destruction of both hands at or above the
132 wrists, [~~Four~~] **NINE** thousand [~~five hundred~~] pesos [~~(P4,500.00)~~]
133 **(P9,000.00)**;

134 “(i) For the loss or destruction of both feet at or above the ankles,
135 [~~Four~~] **NINE** thousand [~~five hundred~~] pesos [~~(P4,500.00)~~] **(P9,000.00)**;

136 “(j) For the loss or destruction of one hand at or above the wrist,
137 [~~Two~~] **FOUR** thousand [~~two hundred fifty~~] **FIVE HUNDRED** pesos
138 [~~(P2,250.00)~~] **(P4,500.00)**;

139 “(k) For the loss or destruction of one foot at or above the ankle,
140 [~~Two~~] **FOUR** thousand [~~two hundred fifty~~] **FIVE HUNDRED** pesos
141 [~~(P2,250.00)~~] **(P4,500.00)**;

142 “(l) For the loss or destruction of every thumb or great toe, [~~One~~]
143 **TWO** thousand pesos [~~(P1,00.00)~~] **(P2,000.00)**;

144 “(m) For the loss or destruction of every finger or toe, [~~Five~~]
145 **ONE** [~~hundred~~] **THOUSAND** pesos [~~(P500.00)~~] **(P1,000.00)**;

146 “(n) For any other injury requiring hospitalization of at least
147 forty (40) days, [~~Two~~] **FOUR** thousand pesos [~~(P2,000.00)~~]
148 **(P4,000.00)**, and in cases where the hospitalization is less than forty
149 (40) days, at such amount not exceeding [~~One~~] **TWO** thousand pesos
150 [~~(P1,000.00)~~] **(P2,000.00)** as determined by the System and prescribed
151 in its rules and regulations issued pursuant to the provisions of this Act;
152 and

153 “(o) For any other injury not requiring hospitalization but
154 requiring medical attention for at least seven (7) days, [~~Six hundred~~]
155 **ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED** pesos [~~(P600.00)~~]
156 **(P1,200.00).**”

157 SEC. 6. Section 6 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

158 “SEC. 6. *Responsibility for Payment of Premium.* – For all the
159 insurance benefits provided in the preceding sections, the [~~national~~
160 ~~government of the Republic of the Philippines~~]
161 **CITY/MUNICIPALITY** shall appropriate annually and include in
162 [~~the General Appropriations Act~~] **THEIR ANNUAL BUDGET** the
163 total annual premiums based on the actual number of local officials
164 covered under Section One hereof and as certified by the Department
165 of **THE INTERIOR AND** Local Government. The annual premiums,

166 unless later on adjusted in accordance with the provisions of this
167 Section, shall be [~~Two~~] **FOUR** hundred [~~forty-seven~~] **NINETY-**
168 **FOUR** pesos [~~(P247.00)~~] **(P494.00)** for every punong barangay and
169 members of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod,
170 or sangguniang bayan, and [~~Sixty-two~~] **ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-**
171 **FOUR** pesos [~~(P62.00)~~] **(P124.00)** for every member of the
172 sangguniang barangay, barangay secretary, barangay treasurer,
173 chairman of the kabataang barangay [.), **SANGGUNIANG**
174 **KABATAAN MEMBER AND BARANGAY RECORDS**
175 **KEEPER.** The entire appropriation for the payments of the foregoing
176 total annual premiums shall be released to the Government Service
177 Insurance System during the first month of every calendar year. The
178 System shall conduct periodic actuarial studies to determine the
179 adequacy of the contribution as provided herein. Based on such
180 studies, the premiums may be adjusted and the total annual premiums
181 based on the adjusted premium rates as certified by the System shall
182 likewise be provided for in the [~~General Appropriations Act~~]
183 **ANNUAL BUDGET OF CITY/MUNICIPALITY** for every
184 applicable year thereafter.”

185 SEC. 7. All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances
186 or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are
187 repealed or modified accordingly.

188 SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the
189 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

190 Approved,

191