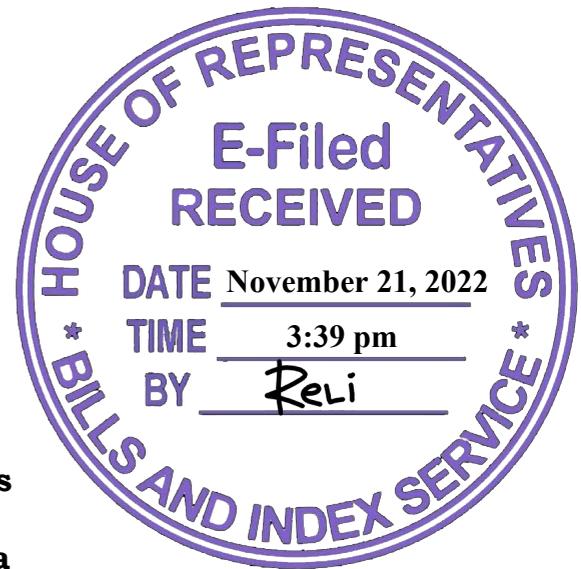




**Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**Nineteenth Congress  
First Regular Session**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6253**



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**Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to establish a Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) which will exercise the primary responsibility of securing the safety of all Members of Congress, protecting the properties of both the Senate and the House of Representatives, and ensuring that the mandate and authority vested in the Members of Congress by the Constitution and its legislative powers remain unobstructed. Through the PLP, Congress can enforce and execute its contempt powers and issue *subpoenas*, summonses, and arrest warrants. Further, the establishment of PLP creates a safe and secure environment for the Members.

The system of checks and balances fundamentally requires the independence of the branches of government, and only through such independence can we best achieve the government's ends.

Currently, Congress relies on the law enforcement agencies under the Executive Department to enforce and execute its contempt orders and warrants of arrest. For example, in the 17th Congress, the Committee on Justice issued an arrest warrant against Ronnie Dayan for his failure to appear before the committee conducting a public hearing on the proliferation of drug syndicates at the New Bilibid Prison. The Philippine National Police (PNP) personnel made the arrest mainly because the House of Representatives does not have an enforcement body equipped and authorized to carry out its contempt and arrest orders.

The PNP and other law enforcement agencies are under the control and supervision of the Executive Department. As such, Congress is helpless to do

anything if the PNP and other law enforcement agencies, which Congress has commissioned to enforce and execute its orders, are negligent of their assigned duties.

The reliance of Congress on the law enforcement agencies of the Executive Department in the protection of its members and the enforcement and execution of its powers impair, to a large extent, the independence of Congress from the Executive Department.

The Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives perform work and functions not only on the premises of their respective Session Halls or offices. Attending various meetings and looking after their constituents are indispensable to their duties. Inherent to their functions as legislators and politicians are the threats to their lives. And again, Congress does not have enough workforce and capability to provide security to its members in performing outside duties, it relies on the law enforcement agencies of the Executive Department.

The bill further proposes that officers will have the same qualifications, salaries and benefits, retirement age, and equivalent rank as the Philippine National Police (PNP) members. However, their functions will be limited to providing safety and security to every Member of Congress and the enforcement and execution of the orders of Congress in the exercise of its powers.

This measure is a refiled bill from House Bill No. 6208 authored by former Representative Rodolfo C. Farinas in the 17th Congress.



**RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS I**



**Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**Nineteenth Congress  
First Regular Session**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6253**

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**Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I**

---

**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE LEGISLATIVE POLICE (PLP) AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SEC. 1 Short Title.** - This Act may be cited as the "*Philippine Legislative*  
2 *Police Act.*"  
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the  
5 State to ensure the independence of the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial  
6 Departments of the government to promote efficiency and to enable them  
7 to perform their respective constitutional mandates. Toward this end, an  
8 independent and organized police force under the control and supervision  
9 of the Congress of the Philippines is necessary to secure the performance  
10 of the Legislature of its constitutionally mandated duty to make laws that  
11 effectively respond to the needs of our people.  
12

13 The police force shall be organized, trained, and equipped primarily for the  
14 protection and security of Members of the Congress of the Philippines and  
15 its officers, employees, visitors, and properties. No elements of the police  
16 force shall be in the military, nor shall any position thereof be occupied by  
17 an active member of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the  
18 Philippine National Police (PNP).  
19

20 **SEC. 3. Philippine Legislative Police (PLP).** -There is hereby established  
21 a Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) under the control and supervision of

1 the Congress of the Philippines. The PLP shall be primarily responsible for  
2 the protection of the Members and properties of both the House of  
3 Representatives and the Senate.  
4

5 The Offices of the Sergeant-at-Arms, as provided by the Rules of the House  
6 of Representatives and the Rules of the Senate, shall continue to be headed  
7 by their respective Sergeant-at-Arms who shall oversee the daily operations  
8 of the PLP.  
9

10 **SEC. 4. Powers and Functions.** - The PLP shall exercise the following  
11 duties and functions:  
12

13 (a) Secure the safety of all Members of Congress, their spouses, and  
14 relatives, up to the second degree of consanguinity, upon determination  
15 and validation that their lives are threatened;

16 (b) Protect the properties of Congress and ensure the safety of its  
17 employees, visitors, and other persons who are on the premises of  
18 Congress;

19 (c) Maintain peace and order and conduct patrol duties, communications,  
20 intelligence gathering, and access control systems on the premises of  
21 Congress;

22 (d) Coordinate with other law enforcement agencies to maximize collection  
23 and sharing of intelligence information for purposes of identifying threats  
24 to Congress or any of its Members, their spouses, and relatives up to the  
25 second degree of consanguinity;

26 (e) Prevent crimes, effect the arrest of criminal offenders, investigate the  
27 commission of all crimes and offenses committed within the jurisdiction of  
28 Congress, and assist in the prosecution thereof;

29 (f) Coordinate the issuance of licenses for the possession of, and permits to  
30 carry, firearms to Members of Congress, the PLP personnel, and the  
31 Secretariat employees of both Houses of Congress, as well as the  
32 congressional staff of incumbent Members of Congress;

33 (g) Serve subpoenas and warrants that Congress may issue;

34 (h) Purchase firearms, ammunitions, and other equipment necessary for  
35 the performance of *its* function;

36 (i) Issue Mission Orders and Memorandum of Receipt to provide its  
37 personnel with firearms, ammunitions, and other equipment; and

38 (j) Perform and exercise all other powers and functions necessary to  
39 implement the provisions of this Act.  
40

41 **SEC. 5. Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) Board.** - The PLP shall be  
42 governed by the Philippine Legislative Police Board, hereinafter referred to  
43 as the Board, composed of the Chairperson of the Committee on Public  
44 Order and Safety of the House of Representatives, the Chairperson of the  
45 Public Order and Dangerous Drugs of the Senate of the Philippines, the  
46 Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives, the Sergeant-at-Arms of  
47 the Senate, and a retired General of the AFP or Chief Superintendent of the  
48 Philippine National Police who shall act as Chairman and appointed jointly  
49 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and Senate President. The  
50 Chairman shall serve for a term of three (3) years with reappointment. The  
51 members of the Board shall hold office until their successors are duly  
52 elected or appointed.

1  
2 The Board shall exercise the following:

- 3 (a) Selection, appointment, and promotion of personnel;  
4 (b) Deployment, placement, and utilization of the PLP or any of its units  
5 and personnel;  
6 (c) Resolution of any complaint filed against its officers and exercise of  
7 disciplinary powers, including the imposition of penalties;  
8 (d) Establishment of an effective performance system; and  
9 (e) Issuance of policies and instructions regarding personnel, funds,  
10 properties, records, correspondences, and such other matters as may be  
11 necessary to effectively carry out the functions, powers, and duties of the  
12 PLP.

13  
14 The exercise of powers of the Board is subject to the review and approval  
15 of the Speaker on the part of the House of Representatives and the Senate  
16 President on the part of the Senate of the Philippines. The Board may hold  
17 regular meetings in either of the offices of the Sergeant-of-Arms of the  
18 House and Senate and special meetings in any place in Metro Manila.

19  
20 Expenses for the special meetings are subject to existing budgeting,  
21 accounting, and auditing rules and regulations.

22  
23 **SEC. 6. Organizational Structure and Staffing Pattern.** - Within six (6)  
24 months from the convening of the Board, the organizational structure and  
25 staffing pattern of the PLP shall be formulated and finalized for the joint  
26 approval of the Speaker of the House and Senate President. The PLP shall  
27 comprise two (2) key units, the Operations, and Administrative Bureaus,  
28 which shall be headed by the Chief for Operations and the Chief  
29 Administrative Officer, respectively:

30  
31 **A. PLP Operations Bureau**

32 The following services shall be under the Operations Bureau:

33 (1) **Operational Service**, which is responsible for the operational needs of  
34 the PLP, shall include specialty units such as command center,  
35 communications, crisis and emergency unit, patrol and mobile unit, and  
36 canine unit.

37 (2) **Protective Service**, which is responsible for collecting and analyzing  
38 information to produce intelligence, assessing threats, identifying and  
39 mitigating risks, and protecting Members of Congress, shall include  
40 specialty units such as investigation, intelligence analysis, and dignitary  
41 protection.

42 (3) **Security Service**, which is responsible for the planning, design, and  
43 execution of security measures on the premises of both Houses of  
44 Congress.

45  
46 **B. PLP Administrative Bureau**

47 The following services shall be under the Administrative Bureau:

48 (1) **Financial Management Service**, which is responsible for all  
49 the financial activity of the PLP, shall include accounting, budget,  
50 and procurement divisions.

51 (2) **Human Resource Service**, which is responsible for developing,  
52 implementing, and administering human resource programs and services,

1 including recruitment, compensation and benefits, employee relations,  
2 training and development, and compliance with labor and employment  
3 laws.

4 (3) **Information Systems Service**, which is responsible for the planning,  
5 budgeting, designing, and applying various technologies in support of the  
6 PLP operations, such as providing automated information, networking,  
7 telecom, and wireless communications.

8  
9 **SEC. 7. Rank of Officers.** - For purposes of efficient  
10 administration, supervision, and control, the PLP shall have the following  
11 rank classification:

12  
13 Legislative Chief Superintendent  
14 Legislative Senior Superintendent  
15 Legislative Superintendent  
16 Legislative Chief Inspector  
17 Legislative Senior Inspector  
18 Legislative Inspector  
19 Legislative Senior Police Officer IV  
20 Legislative Senior Police Officer III  
21 Legislative Senior Police Officer II  
22 Legislative Senior Police Officer I  
23 Legislative Police Officer III  
24 Legislative Police Officer II  
25 Legislative Police Officer I  
26

27 The Board shall use this classification to prepare the officers' staffing  
28 pattern and prescribe the number of officers in each rank. In addition, the  
29 Board may refer to the existing ranks of the uniformed personnel of other  
30 departments.

31  
32 **SEC. 8. Qualification and Examination.** - No person shall be appointed  
33 office of the PLP unless the applicant possesses the following minimum  
34 qualifications:

- 35  
36 (a) A citizen of the Philippines;  
37 (b) A person of good moral conduct;  
38 (c) Must have passed the psychiatric or psychological, drug, and physical  
39 tests to be administered by the PLP accredited government hospitals to  
40 determine physical and mental health;  
41 (d) Must possess a formal baccalaureate degree from a recognized  
42 institution of learning;  
43 (e) Must be eligible in accordance with the standards set by the Board;  
44 (f) Must not have been dishonorably discharged from military employment  
45 or dismissed for cause from any civilian position in the government;  
46 (g) Must not have been convicted by final judgment of an offense or crime  
47 involving moral turpitude;  
48 (h) Must be at least one meter and sixty-two centimeters ( 1.62m) in height  
49 for males and one meter and fifty-seven centimeters (1.57m) for females;  
50 (i) Must weigh not more than or less five kilograms (5 kgs.) from  
51 the standard weight corresponding to the height, age, and sex; and

1 (j) A new applicant must not be less than twenty-one (21) years of age nor  
2 more than twenty-nine (29) years of age for females and thirty-two (32)  
3 years of age for males.

4  
5 Except for item (j) above, these qualifications shall continue in character,  
6 and an absence of any one of them at any given time shall be ground for  
7 separation or retirement from the service.

8  
9 To determine compliance with the requirements on physical and mental  
10 health, as well as the non-use of prohibited drugs, the PLP, through an  
11 accredited government hospital, shall conduct regular psychiatric,  
12 psychological drug, and physical tests randomly and without prior notice.

13  
14 Likewise, no officer may be appointed without passing the qualifying  
15 entrance examinations that the PLP shall administer based on the  
16 standards set by the Board.

17  
18 **SEC. 9. Training and Education.** - The officers of the PLP shall undergo  
19 continuous training and education to ensure that they maintain and  
20 improve their skills and inform themselves of up-to-date knowledge and  
21 information on security.

22  
23 The officers of the PLP shall undergo training and education in the  
24 Philippine Public Safety College or other equivalent institutions. In  
25 addition, the Congress of the Philippines may establish its training and  
26 education support unit for the benefit of the PLP.

27  
28 **SEC. 10. Promotion.** - To be eligible for promotion, an officer of the PLP  
29 shall comply with the following requirements:

- 30  
31 (a) Pass the corresponding promotional examination given by the Board;  
32 (b) Complete an appropriate and accredited training course designed by the  
33 Board;  
34 (c) Pass the psychiatric or psychological and drug tests; and  
35 (d) Present certification of no pending administrative or criminal case.

36  
37 Special or meritorious promotion may be extended to any officer for acts of  
38 conspicuous courage and gallantry at the risk of the officer's life above and  
39 beyond the call of duty upon prior validation by the Board based on  
40 established criteria.

41  
42 **SEC. 11. Salaries and Benefits.** - The officers and employees shall  
43 receive the existing salaries, benefits, and other allowances authorized for  
44 corresponding salary grades provided under existing civil service laws,  
45 rules, and regulations. They shall also be entitled to other benefits and  
46 allowances that secretariat employees of the House of Representatives and  
47 the Senate may receive subject to the joint approval of the Speaker of the  
48 House and the Senate President.

49  
50 **SEC. 12. Retirement.** - Any officer attaining fifty-six (56) years shall be  
51 compulsorily retired. However, upon accumulation of twenty-five (25) years

1 of satisfactory service, any officer may apply for early retirement subject to  
2 the approval of the Board.

3  
4 Upon compulsory retirement, an officer is entitled to retirement benefits  
5 computed one grade higher than the position last held.

6  
7 The retirement age provided in this section applies only to new entrants.  
8 Existing personnel who qualifies to be an officer shall be compulsorily  
9 retired after attaining six-five (65) years of age. However, such personnel  
10 may retire after attaining fifty-six (56) years of age and is entitled to  
11 additional gratuity provided by existing law, rules, and regulations on  
12 retirement.

13  
14 **SEC. 13. Death and Disability.** - The officer or the heirs are entitled to all  
15 benefits relative to the death or permanent incapacity of the officer under  
16 existing laws. In addition, an officer who accumulated at least twenty (20)  
17 years of service which incurs total permanent disability in the line of duty  
18 is compulsorily retired and is entitled to a separation pay equivalent to one  
19 and one-half (1½) basic salary for every year of service computed on the  
20 current salary grade. A fraction of six (6) months shall be considered one  
21 (1) whole year.

22  
23 **SEC. 14. Administrative Complaint and**  
24 **Disciplinary Action.** - Any administrative complaint and disciplinary  
25 action filed against any officer shall be heard, decided, and implemented in  
26 accordance with the rules of procedure that the Board shall establish. The  
27 administrative penalties that the Board may impose corresponding to the  
28 Act or omission of the officer include withholding privileges, forfeiture of  
29 salary, suspension, or any combination thereof, for a period not exceeding  
30 one hundred (180) days.

31  
32 **SEC. 15. Summary Dismissal Power of the Board.** - The Board, after due  
33 notice and hearing, may immediately remove or dismiss any officer in the  
34 following cases:

- 35  
36 (a) When the charge involves moral turpitude and the evidence of guilt is  
37 strong;  
38 (b) When the officer has been repeatedly charged, and there are reasonable  
39 grounds to believe that the officer is guilty of the charges, and  
40 (c) When the officer is guilty of a serious offense involving conduct  
41 unbecoming of an officer.

42  
43 Any officer who shall go on absence without leave (AWOL) for a continuous  
44 period of thirty (30) days or more shall be dismissed immediately from the  
45 service.

46  
47 **SEC. 16. Legal Assistance.** - The Office of the Legal Affairs of the House  
48 of Representatives and the Office of Legal Counsel of the Senate shall  
49 provide legal assistance to any officer of PLP who is charged in any court  
50 or competent body arising from any incident related to the performance of  
51 official duty.

1 **SEC. 17. Transitory Provision.** - All personnel, properties, equipment,  
2 functions, and responsibilities of the Offices of the Sergeant-at-Arms as  
3 provided by the Rules of the House of Representatives and the Rules of the  
4 Senate, as well as their legislative security bureaus, are hereby transferred  
5 to the PLP.  
6

7 All regular or permanent employees transferred to the PLP shall not suffer  
8 any loss of seniority nor diminution of benefits and shall undergo six (6)  
9 months of socio-civic police training, which includes one hundred (100)  
10 hours of theoretical and practical exercise on constitutional and human  
11 rights and other relevant training necessary to their new function. In  
12 addition, the Board shall identify who among the regular employees may  
13 be appointed officer of the PLP. The appointed officers shall then be  
14 deployed and remain in their present assignments.  
15

16 Any employee who may not be accommodated in the new position structure  
17 and staffing pattern shall be given preference to join any office of Congress  
18 or allowed to retire under existing laws, rules, and regulations. Any  
19 employee who opts to retire is entitled to an additional gratuity equivalent  
20 to three (3) months' basic salary for every year of service. A fraction of six  
21 (6) months shall be considered one (1) whole year.  
22

23 **SEC. 18. Appropriation.** - The amount necessary for the initial  
24 implementation of the Act shall be sourced from the current  
25 appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Thereafter,  
26 such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this  
27 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.  
28

29 **SEC. 19. Reportorial Requirements.** -

30 The Board shall submit to the Speaker of the House and Senate President  
31 an annual report of the operations of the PLP. Likewise, within fifteen (15)  
32 days before the final adjournment of each Congress, the Board shall submit  
33 a summary report on the review of the organizational structure and staffing  
34 pattern, which includes a recommendation on the viability of the abolition  
35 or creation of services.  
36

37 **SEC. 20. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - Within ninety (90)  
38 days from the approval of this Act, the Board shall promulgate the rules  
39 and regulations implementing the provision of this Act. The implementing  
40 rules and regulations issued pursuant to this section shall take effect thirty  
41 (30) days after publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.  
42

43 **SEC. 21. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared  
44 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected  
45 thereby shall remain in full force and effect.  
46

47 **SEC. 22. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
48 publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.  
49

50 Approved,



