



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6512

BY REPRESENTATIVES ACOP, FERNANDEZ, REGENCIA, PLAZA, ZAMORA (Y.M.), ARROGANCIA, ACHARON, PADUANO, AQUINO, CAGAS, SAKALURAN, TIENG, KHO (W.), PLEYTO, CARDEMA, RAMA, GUTIERREZ, PADIERNOS, OLASO, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, DAGOOC, DALIPE AND BORDADO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 205

**AN ACT
REQUIRING PERSONNEL OF THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION TO BE CERTIFIED
MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDERS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11589,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE "BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION MODERNIZATION ACT"**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Title III, Section 4 of Republic Act No. 11589, is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3 "SEC. 4. BFP Modernization Program. – The BFP shall, in coordination with
4 the DILG, establish and implement the BFP Modernization Program which shall be geared
5 towards the enhancement of the capability of its personnel and acquisition of state-of-the-art
6 fire prevention, fire suppression, fire investigation, and emergency medical and rescue
7 services facilities and equipment. The BFP Modernization Program shall consist of the
8 following components:

9 a) Fire Protection Service. – x x x

10 b) Force Restructuring and Organizational Development. – x x x

1 c) Capability, Material, and Technology Development. – x x x

2 d) Specialized Services Development. – The BFP Modernization
3 Program shall establish specialized fire protection services such as high-rise
4 building fires, forest fires, aircraft and airport fires, chemical fires, disaster
5 rescue services, and emergency medical services. It shall also include the
6 establishment of a Search and Rescue Force, HAZMAT units, Fire and Arson
7 Investigation Unit, and Security and Protection Unit in every region and city,
8 as well as an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) in every municipality and
9 city: *Provided*, That each EMS unit to be established shall be comprised of an
10 ambulance with adequate medical equipment, and qualified and trained
11 personnel: *PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR*
12 *SHALL DESIGNATE IN EVERY FIRE STATION, AT LEAST ONE (1)*
13 *UNIFORMED PERSONNEL PER SHIFT, REGARDLESS OF RANK, TO ACT*
14 *AS AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN WHO WILL SUPERVISE*
15 *FIRE OFFICERS IN RESPONDING TO MEDICAL EMERGENCIES.*

16 AS USED IN THIS ACT, AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL
17 TECHNICIAN REFERS TO A TRAINED AND CERTIFIED PRE-HOSPITAL
18 EMERGENCY CARE PROVIDER WHO IS CAPABLE OF PERFORMING
19 EXTENSIVE PRE-HOSPITAL CARE, ENDOTRACHEAL INTUBATIONS AND
20 CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION; ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS
21 ORALLY AND INTRAVENOUSLY; AND USING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL
22 DEFIBRILLATOR AND OTHER COMPLEX EMERGENCY MEDICAL
23 EQUIPMENT:

24 *Provided, further, That every Security and Protection Unit (SPU)*
25 *shall be composed of not more than fourteen (14) personnel, comprised of*
26 *two (2) team leaders with the rank of at least Fire Inspector and team*
27 *members, who shall undergo a neuropsychological examination and periodic*
28 *trainings: Provided, furthermore, That BFP personnel with the rank of Senior*
29 *Fire Officer III may be given priority to be appointed as SPU team member:*
30 *Provided, finally, That THE SPU shall be provided with appropriate equipment*
31 *to protect firefighters during fire suppression, containment of HAZMAT and*
32 *CBRNE materials, fire investigation, and in the performance of all other acts*
33 *pertinent to their mandate; and*

34 e) Human Resource Development. – The modernization program
35 shall include the development of a comprehensive training program for BFP
36 personnel and BFP volunteers, including mandatory training for new entrants
37 and newly-appointed personnel of the BFP, and BFP volunteers, and
38 establishment of training facilities.

39 In order to accelerate the Personnel Development Program, the
40 BFP shall encourage and promote volunteerism and shall develop guidelines
41 for the enlistment and training of BFP volunteers. Internationally accredited
42 training consultants and advisers may be hired if the BFP determines that

1 there is no Filipino citizen who is competent, able, and willing to provide the
2 same expertise.

3 The BFP shall, in coordination with the Department of Health
4 (DOH) and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
5 (TESDA), provide necessary trainings for its EMS, which include infection
6 control and exposure, emergency vehicle response, incident rehabilitation,
7 critical incident stress management, response to HAZMAT, response to mass
8 casualty incidents (MCI), and response to vehicle accidents, among others.

9 UPON APPOINTMENT, A FIRE OFFICER 1 (FO1) OF THE BFP
10 MUST UNDERGO AND COMPLETE THE FIRE BASIC RECRUIT COURSE
11 (FBRC) WHICH SHALL PROVIDE THE FUNDAMENTAL KNOWLEDGE
12 AND SKILLS NECESSARY TO MEET THE MINIMUM STANDARDS OF
13 FIRE PERSONNEL COMPETENCE, INCLUDING ADVANCED FIRST AID
14 AND EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONSE. THE COURSE DESCRIPTION
15 AND COMPONENTS OF THE FBRC SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
16 THE INTERNAL RULES AND REGULATIONS ON MANDATORY
17 TRAINING, LOCAL SCHOOLING, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS WHICH
18 ARE ISSUED BY THE BFP. UPON COMPLETION OF THE FBRC, THE
19 APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATION AS MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDER
20 SHALL BE ISSUED ACCORDINGLY.

21 THE BFP, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DOH, TESDA, AND
22 THE LOCAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE
23 (LDRRMO) SHALL DESIGN AND ESTABLISH A TRAINING PROGRAM
24 FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS.

25
26 THE BFP PERSONNEL DESIGNATED AS EMERGENCY
27 MEDICAL TECHNICIAN MUST BE DULY CERTIFIED AS EMERGENCY
28 MEDICAL TECHNICIAN IN ADDITION TO THEIR TRAINING AND
29 CERTIFICATION AS MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDER.

30
31 UNIFORMED PERSONNEL WHO ARE ALREADY IN THE
32 SERVICE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 SHALL BE GIVEN FIVE (5) YEARS
33 WITHIN WHICH TO OBTAIN THE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT AS
34 EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE BFP
35 SHALL SHOULD THE TRAINING EXPENSES AND FEES FOR THOSE
36 WHO ARE ALREADY IN THE SERVICE: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT
37 UNIFORMED BFP PERSONNEL WHO HAVE RENDERED MORE THAN
38 FIFTEEN (15) YEARS OF SERVICE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 SHALL
39 NO LONGER BE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE
40 AFOREMENTIONED CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AS MEDICAL
41 FIRST RESPONDER OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN.

42 **SEC. 2.** Should any part of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other
43 parts or provisions hereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

1 **SEC. 3.** All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, implementing rules and
2 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed
3 or modified accordingly.

4 **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
5 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,