

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. 7686



**Introduced by Representatives PAOLO Z. DUTERTE, ERIC G. YAP,
and EDVIC G. YAP**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the *NAPOLCOM Memorandum Circular No. 2018-002*, Lateral Entry is a provision of law that allows the appointment of Police Commissioned Officers (PCOs) to fill-up the vacancies for the Line and Technical service positions in the PNP. The same Memorandum Circular also enunciates a new set of guidelines to address the present needs in the recruitment of the Police Commissioned Officers (PCOs) through lateral entry, while taking cognizance of Sec. 33 of Republic Act No. 6975 or *The DILG Act of 1990* and Republic Act No. 11131 or *The Philippine Criminology Profession Act of 2018*.

While the Memorandum Circular sets the said guidelines for technical service positions in the PNP, the following proposed measure seeks to incorporate these guidelines through formal amendments in RA 6975, while making the qualifications more inclusive to all the aforementioned professions. The said proposed amendment also allows the graduates of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) to be automatically appointed to the initial rank of Police Lieutenant, instead of a police inspector in the RA 6975.

Through the said proposed measure, more professionals will be recruited to the PNP service in hopes of strengthening the PNP's human resource and technical capabilities in serving the people and addressing various challenges in the institution's campaign against criminality, illegal drugs violent extremism, lawlessness, terrorism, natural and man-made disasters, among others.

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


PAOLO Z. DUTERTE


ERIC G. YAP


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AN ACT
AMENDING SEC 33 OF REPUBLIC ACT 6975, OR “THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1990” TO INCLUDE OTHER
BACCALAUREATE DEGREES TO THE LATERAL ENTRY PROGRAM FOR LINE
AND TECHNICAL OFFICERS

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “Amended Provision of the Lateral Entry Program for Line and Technical Officers (Sec 33 of RA 6975) to the Rank of Police Lieutenant.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to establish a highly efficient, effective and competent police force, which is national in scope, civilian in character, and administered and controlled by the Philippine National Police (PNP).

SEC. 3. *Objective.* - This amendment of Section 33 of Republic Act 6975 intends to include other baccalaureate degrees in the lateral entry program of the Philippine National Police (PNP) for technical and line officers to fill up vacancies and to expand the opportunities to Police Non-Commissioned Officers (PNCOs) and Non-Uniformed Personnel (NUP) who are already in the service and are qualified to the position of Police Lieutenants based on their eligibility as Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) licensed professionals and CSC Career Service Professional (CSP).

SEC. 4. *Lateral Entry for Technical Officers.*

Section 33 of Republic Act No. 6975 is amended to read as follows: "Section 33. ***Lateral Entry of Officers into the PNP.*** In general, all original appointments of commissioned officers in the PNP shall commence with the rank of Police Lieutenant, to include all those with highly technical qualifications applying for the PNP technical services, such as:

Aeronautical Engineers
Computer Engineers

Chemical Engineers
Chemists

Civil Engineers
Criminologists
Dentists
Electrical Engineers
Electronics Engineers
Guidance and Counseling
Mechanical Engineers
Medical Technologists
Metallurgical Engineers
Molecular Biologists
Naval Architects
Nuclear Physicists

Nurses
Nutritionists and Dieticians
Optometrists
Physical Therapists
Psychologists
Psychometricians
Sports Medicine
Social Workers
Veterinary Medicines
Graduates of Forensic Sciences
Information Technology Professionals
Other Technical Professions

Abovementioned professionals shall be accommodated to the PNP service to fill up vacancies in any of the PNP offices/units for technical services, provided, they possess an appropriate PRC license or CSP eligibility.

Doctors of Medicine, Members of the Bar, Priests/Pastors/Imams, and Licensed Aircraft Pilots shall be appointed to the rank of Police Captain in their particular technical service. Provided, that the Police Commissioned Officers who are recruited via the Lateral Entry Technical Officers Program shall exclusively serve the office/unit where he/she was accepted and must acquire or pursue training related to his/her field of expertise in pursuit of excellence."

SEC. 5. *Lateral Entry for Line Officers.* - Section 33 of RA No. 6975 shall further be amended to read as follows:

Graduates of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) shall be automatically appointed to the initial rank of Police Lieutenant.

"In the Lateral Entry for Line Officers Program, licensed criminologists, other professionals who have licenses issued by the Professional Regulation Commission and those who are Career Service Professionals may be appointed to the rank of Police Lieutenant to fill up vacancies in the PNP Line Units.

Provided, that Licensed Criminologists and other PRC licensed professionals, to include Career Service Professionals who are applying for lateral entry line officership, are already members of the PNP with a rank of at least Police Staff Sergeant for Uniformed Personnel or at least Salary Grade 14 for NUP and have served the organization for at least 5 years.

Provided further, that these Police Lieutenants in the line services shall serve at least 5 years in the line offices/units they opted to join before they can seek reassignment to other line offices/units."

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* - All other provisions of Republic Act 6975, as amended by Republic Act 8551, otherwise known as the "Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998," and all other laws, executive orders, rules,

and regulations, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act shall be deemed modified or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

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

Approved,