

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7077, June 27, 1991]

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, ADMINISTRATION, ORGANIZATION, TRAINING, MAINTENANCE AND UTILIZATION OF THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

**ARTICLE I
TITLE**

SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Citizen Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservist Act."

**ARTICLE II
DECLARATION OF POLICY**

SEC. 2. *The Regular Force.* - It is the policy of the State to maintain a standing or regular military force in times of peace consonant to its adequate and actual needs for the security of the State but which can be rapidly expanded by the well-disciplined Citizen Armed Force in the event of war, invasion or rebellion.

SEC. 3. *The Security and Socioeconomic Development of the State.* - The Citizen Armed Force shall be provided maximum opportunity to participate in safeguarding the security of the State and in assisting in socioeconomic development.

SEC. 4. *The Call to Personal Military and Civil Service.* - The Citizen Armed Force shall be so organized, trained, developed and maintained as to ensure their readiness to immediately respond to the call to service.

SEC. 5. *The Public Awareness.* - The State shall promote and develop public support to and awareness of the important role of the Citizen Armed Force as protector of the people and the State.

SEC. 6. *The Manpower of the Citizen Armed Force.* - The manpower objective of the Citizen Armed Force shall conform to projected and actual needs. It is not envisioned by the State to have a nation under arms, unless extremely necessary.

**ARTICLE III
MISSION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCE**

SEC. 7. *Mission.* - The mission of the Citizen Armed Force, alternately referred to as the Reserve Force, is to provide the base for the expansion of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in the event of war, invasion or rebellion; to assist in relief and

rescue during disasters or calamities; to assist in socioeconomic development; and to assist in the operation and maintenance of essential government or private utilities in the furtherance of overall mission.

SEC. 8. *Organizations.* - The Reserve Force shall be organized into five (5) components, namely:

1. The Army Reserve Component;
2. The Air Force Reserve Component;
3. The Navy Reserve Component;
4. The AFP-Wide Technical Reserve Component; and
5. The Affiliated Reserves.

SEC. 9. *Organization of Reserve Components.* - The organization of each component of the Reserve Force and the manpower objective of each component shall be as prescribed by the Secretary of National Defense and approved by the President of the Philippines. The organization, structure, manning and equipment of reserve units shall conform to the organization of the regular force. Reserve units of a battalion type or equivalent shall be organized on a provincial basis, and reserve units of a brigade and division type or equivalent, on a regional basis. The organizational structure and manning of the affiliated reserve units shall be prescribed by the Secretary of National Defense and shall as much as possible Conform to their existing civilian organization.

SEC. 10. *Affiliated Reserves.* - As the President shall approve upon recommendation of the Secretary of National Defense, certain private and government entities, corporations, establishments and organizations at the national, provincial and municipal levels which provide essential public services such as water, light, transportation and communications which are necessary to support the prosecution of national defense plans or to meet an emergency shall be organized as affiliated units of the Reserve Force. These affiliated units shall be constituted by appropriate orders to be issued by the Secretary of National Defense, given unit designations and assigned to the appropriate reserve components of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). The roster of the officials and employees of these affiliated units shall be included in the orders of constituting the units. These units shall be so utilized in times of war or emergency to ensure the continuous and uninterrupted provision of the essential services they are rendering.

ARTICLE IV DEFINITION OF CITIZEN SOLDIERS

SEC. 11. *Citizen Soldiers.* - The citizen soldiers, alternately referred to as reservists, who compose the Reserve Force are those reservists of the Armed Forces of the Philippines who are incorporated into the Reserve Force, as follows:

1. Graduates of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) basic and advance courses and who were issued orders as enlisted reservists or reserve officers of the AFP;
2. Graduates of authorized basic military training instructions who, as a result thereof, were issued orders as enlisted reservists or reserve officers;
3. Ex-servicemen and retired officers of the AFP and other armed forces that have diplomatic relations with the Philippines who were honorably discharged or retired from the service and who are Filipino citizens upon their application;

4. Recognized World War II guerrillas who were honorably discharged from the service;
5. Commissioned and noncommissioned officers under the Affiliated Reserves category and graduates of the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP); and
6. Commissioned, noncommissioned officers and privates under the existing laws including those procured under project 36-70 and included in the present AFP roster before the enactment of this Act and those to be commissioned or enlisted after the enactment of this Act.

ARTICLE V

CATEGORIZATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF CITIZEN SOLDIERS

SEC. 12. Categorization of Citizen Soldiers. - There shall be three (3) categories of citizen soldiers of AFP reservists: the First Category Reserve, the Second Category Reserve, and the Third Category Reserve based on age.

1. *First Category Reserve* - The First Category Reserve shall be composed of able-bodied reservists whose ages are between eighteen (18) years and thirty-five (35) years, inclusive.
2. *Second Category Reserve* - The Second Category Reserve shall be composed of able-bodied reservists whose ages are between thirty-six (36) years and fifty-one (51) years, inclusive.
3. *Third Category Reserve* - The Third Category Reserve shall be composed of all able-bodied reservists who are above fifty-one (51) years of age.

SEC. 13. *Classification of Reserve Force Units*. - Based on the categorization provided in Section 12 above, the Reserve Force units shall further be classified into the Ready Reserve, the Standby Reserve and the Retired Reserve based on their operational readiness for immediate deployment/utilization.

1. *Ready Reserve* - The Ready Reserve shall be composed of citizen soldiers belonging mostly to the First Category Reserve and others as provided in this Act who shall be organized, trained and maintained as mobilizable ready reserve subject to call at any time to augment the regular armed force of the AFP not only in times of war or national emergency but also to meet local emergencies arising from calamities, disasters and threats to peace, order, security and stability in any locality, including the need to provide assistance in relief and rescue work and other civil assistance activities.

Any reservist or citizen soldier belonging to the Second Category Reserve and/or the Third Category Reserve, particularly the commissioned and noncommissioned officers, who will volunteer to serve with the Ready Reserve shall be allowed, if qualified and fit for duty, to join and actively participate as part of the Ready Reserve and shall serve with an appropriate Ready Reserve unit.

Furthermore, members of the AFP Affiliated Reserve units of various government and private utilities and services considered essential for the preservation of the economic stability of the country or particular locality, such as power and electricity, water supply, transportation and communications, among others, regardless of their categorization shall be classified as Ready Reserve.

All citizen soldiers belonging to the First Category Reserve, except those exempted under this Act, shall be required to serve with Ready Reserve units and will have assignments and promotions in accordance with existing policies of the AFP until transferred to the Standby Reserve by virtue of their age.

The following citizen soldiers may be exempted from rendering service with said reserve units:

- a. Active members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police;
- b. Those who are residing abroad but only during the duration of their absence from the Philippines;
- c. Those who are physically and mentally unfit to serve their tour of duty;
- d. Those who are convicted of crimes involving moral turpitude; and
- e. Those who may be exempted from duty for valid reasons which may be authorized on a case-to-case basis by appropriate and competent authority. For this purpose, the AFP shall issue such appropriate guidelines, rules and regulations as may be necessary.

2. *Standby Reserve* - The Standby Reserve shall be composed of citizen soldiers belonging mostly to the Second Category Reserve and the Third Category Reserve, except as provided in this Act. The members of the Standby Reserve shall be organized and assigned to specified reserve units and shall be maintained through annual assembly tests to update their records and their present addresses, among others. The Standby Reserve may be mobilized or ordered to active duty only in times of national emergency or war. The ranks of the members of the Standby Reserve may be upgraded if they voluntarily participate in training or serve with the Ready Reserve units in their areas or if their Standby Reserve units undergo retraining. They will however be encouraged to upgrade their military knowledge and skills by taking up nonresident or resident courses which shall be set up for the purpose.

3. *Retired Reserve* - The Retired Reserve shall be composed of citizen soldiers who have qualified for retirement through length of service, old age or disability. For this purpose, sixty-five (65) years shall be considered as the retirement age. However, if qualified and fit for duty, a member of the Retired Reserve may be ordered to active duty in times of local or national emergencies if he volunteers for active duty and when the Secretary of National Defense determines that there are not enough qualified citizen soldiers with his special skills and qualifications in the Ready Reserve or the Standby Reserve in his particular area of residence.

ARTICLE VI

MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 14. *Compulsory Military Registration and Training.* - All male citizens between the ages of eighteen (18) and twenty-five (25) years who are not reservists shall be required to register for military instruction. Registration shall take place in suitable registration places to be prescribed by the city or municipal government between the dates of April First and Seventh commencing one (1) year after the effectivity of this Act. Biennial registrations shall be held during the same period in succeeding

years.

SEC. 15. *Exemption from Compulsory Military Training.* - The following are exempted from military training:

1. Members of the clergy of any religious order or sect, except if they volunteer;
2. Those in the active service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and police members of the Philippine National Police;
3. Superintendent and uniformed members of the National Penitentiary, corrective institutions, and insane asylums; and
4. Licensed air and maritime pilots, navigators and merchant marine officers.

SEC. 16. *Registering Officer.* - For the purpose of registration as provided for in Section 14 hereof, the city/municipal treasurers of chartered cities and municipalities are hereby designated as registering officers. The Secretary of National Defense shall prescribe and provide the forms to be used in registration and prescribe the procedures for the conduct and reporting of the results of the registration.

SEC. 17. *Persons Disqualified or Exempted from Registration.* -The following persons are disqualified or exempted from registering:

1. Persons who are disqualified by law from employment in government service;
2. Those who are physically or mentally unfit as certified by an AFP medical officer;
3. Those suffering incarceration awaiting trial by a court of law: *Provided*, That upon their release from custody they shall without delay register;
4. Those convicted by final judgment of criminal offenses involving moral turpitude;
5. Students of colleges, universities and similar institutions who are undergoing ROTC training during the pendency of their training recognized by the military authorities as among those undergoing training to qualify as reservists; and
6. Those persons who constituted as members of affiliated units for the duration of time that they hold such membership: *Provided*, That upon the termination of their membership, they shall be subject to military training.

SEC. 18. *Selection of Registrants for Compulsory Training.* - Registrants who are to undergo compulsory training as provided for in this Act shall be selected in the month of May every year by drawing of lots by a board of canvassers. The Secretary of National Defense shall prescribe the procedure for the selection of registrants.

SEC. 19. *Board of Canvassers.* - There is hereby created a board of canvassers, one (1) for each province and chartered city, for the purpose of selecting the registrants who will undergo compulsory military training as provided for in Section 18 hereof. The board shall be composed of the following:

(1) IN PROVINCES	
Division Superintendent of Schools	Chairman
Provincial Fiscal	member
The appropriate military commander as the Secretary of National Defense may	member