

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6358



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ANN K. HOFER

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to increase the recruitment quota requirement of female Philippine National Police (PNP) Officers who shall serve in women's desks from the current ten percent (10%) to at least fifteen percent (15%) within the next five years, to at least twenty percent (20%) thereafter.

According to the National Center for Women & Policing, a U.S.-based organization, female police officers utilize a style of policing that relies less on physical force and more on communication skills that defuse potentially violent situations. Female police officers are therefore much less likely to be involved in occurrences of police brutality, and are also much more likely to effectively respond to police calls regarding violence against women.

This is confirmed by a study conducted by professors from the University of Virginia and University of Zurich, where the authors found that increasing female representation in the police force can both increase reporting of violent crimes against women and decrease domestic violence. This is because female police officers were more likely to take domestic violence crimes seriously and intervene. Female victims also feel more comfortable reporting a crime, whether domestic violence or another form of violence or sexual assault, to female police officers than to male police officers. Thus, increasing the number of female police officers would be an effective strategy for the PNP to better deliver its function of administering and attending to cases involving crimes against chastity, sexual harassment, abuses committed against women and children, and other similar offenses.

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

ANN K. HOFER
Representative
2nd District, Zamboanga Sibugay

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6358

Introduced by: REP. ANN K. HOFER

AN ACT
INCREASING THE RECRUITMENT QUOTA REQUIREMENT OF
FEMALE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) OFFICERS,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 58 OF REPUBLIC ACT
8551, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE NATIONAL
POLICE REFORM AND REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1996"

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

SECTION 1. Section 58 of Republic Act No. 8551, otherwise known as the 'Philippine National Police Reform and Organization Act of 1998', is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 58. *Prioritization of Women for Recruitment.* – Within the next five (5) years, the PNP shall prioritize the recruitment and training of women who shall serve in the women's desk. Pursuant to this requirement, the PNP shall reserve **at least** [~~ten~~] **fifteen** percent [~~(10%)~~] **(15%)** of its annual recruitment, training, and education quota for women: ***Provided, That the recruitment quota for women shall be increased to at least twenty percent (20%) thereafter.***"

SEC. 2. The National Police Commission in coordination with the Philippine National Police and the Department of the Interior and Local Government shall promulgate rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act. Such rules and regulations shall take effect upon their publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

SEC 3. All laws, decrees, letters of instruction, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,