

1 Republic of the Philippines
2 **BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY**
3 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
4 Cotabato City, Philippines
5

6
7 BTA Parliament Bill No. 25
8 Series of 2019
9

10 **Introduced by: MP AIDA M. SILONGAN**

11
12 **AN ACT CREATING A BANGSAMORO VETERAN MUJAHIDEEN/
13 MUJAHIDAT AFFAIRS OFFICE, DEFINING ITS BASIC
14 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND
15 FOR OTHER PURPOSES**
16

17 *Be it enacted by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority in session assembled:*
18

19
20 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known and cited as the “Bangsamoro
21 Veteran Mujahideen Act of 2019”.

22
23 **Section 2. Name.** – The office to be created under this Act shall be known as
24 the Bangsamoro Veteran Mujahideen Affairs Office (BVMAO).
25

26 **Section 3. Purpose.** – The purpose of this Act is to establish an office that will
27 provide financial, medical, social and other assistance to the veterans of the Moro
28 Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) who
29 are underprivileged and have no opportunity for employment because of their old age,
30 lack of the required education, or other requirements for employment.
31

32 **Section 4. Declaration of Policy** – It is the policy of the Bangsamoro
33 Government to protect the interests of its people and ensure every Bangsamoro in its
34 territorial jurisdiction the provision of the basic necessities and equal opportunities in
35 life. It is also the declared policy of the Bangsamoro Government to establish an
36 economic mechanisms that are responsive to the needs of its people.
37

38 **Section 5. Definition of Terms** – As used in this Act, the following terms shall
39 be understood to mean:
40

- 41 a. **"Bangsamoro Government"** refers to the corporate parliament entity with
42 jurisdiction over all matters devolved to it by the Constitution, the Bangsamoro
43 Organic Law, and other pertinent laws, through which the functions of
44 autonomous governance are exercised throughout the Bangsamoro
45 Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, including the various
instrumentalities through which political authority is made effective;

- 48 **b. “Employment”** refers to the state of being employed in any public or private
49 enterprise or organization with expectation of remuneration for the services
50 rendered.
51
- 52 **c. “National Government”** refers to the entire machinery of the central
53 government, as distinguished from the different forms of local governments;
54
- 56 **d. “Qualified Beneficiaries”** refer to those who may avail of the benefits,
57 privileges and other assistance granted under this Act;
- 58 **e. “Underprivileged”** refers to those Veteran Mujahideen and other qualified
59 beneficiaries who have no opportunity for employment because of their old age,
60 lack of the required education, or other requirements for employment, and thus,
61 needs financial, medical, social, and other assistance from the Bangsamoro
62 Government.
63
- 64 **f. “Veteran Mujahideen”** refer to those combatants of the MILF and MNLF who
65 actually took part in the protracted wars for self-determination between the
66 Bangsamoro people and the National Government and who are at least sixty
67 (60) years of age from the time of the effectivity of this Act.
68

69 **Section 6. *Creation.*** – There is hereby created a Bangsamoro Veteran
70 Mujahideen Affairs Office which shall be placed under the operational supervision
71 and control of the Ministry of Public Order and Safety (MPOS) as one of its
72 component divisions.
73

74 **Section 7. *Composition and Organizational Structure.*** – The Bangsamoro
75 Veteran Mujahideen Affairs Office shall be composed of a Director for Bangsamoro
76 Veteran Mujahideen Affairs, as head of the office, and his/her immediate staff, three
77 (3) Development Management Officers V, as the respective heads of the three (3)
78 component sections of the office, and their immediate staff, and other necessary
79 personnel as may be determined under the implementing rules of this Act.
80

81 **Section 8. *Appointment.*** - The Director for Bangsamoro Veteran Mujahideen
82 Affairs shall be appointed by the Interim Chief Minister for a term of three (3) years
83 without prejudice for reappointment. Thereafter, the Director shall be appointed by
84 the Chief Minister for a term of six (6) years without reappointment. All other
85 employees and personnel of the office shall be appointed by the Minister of the MPOS
86 subject to qualification standards prescribed under the implementing rules of this Act
87 which shall not be below the minimum standards provided under civil service laws,
88 rules, and regulations.
89

90 **Section 9. *Duties and Functions.*** – The Bangsamoro Veteran Mujahideen
91 Affairs Office shall perform the following:

- 92 a. Create a functional and effective interagency working group composed of
93 representatives from the Ministry of Social Services; the Ministry of Health;
94 the Ministry of Trade, Investment, and Tourism; the Ministry of Agriculture,
95 Fisheries, and Agrarian Reform; the Ministry of, Basic, Higher, and
96 Technical Education; Ministry of Human Settlement and Development; and

97 other relevant ministries, offices and agencies of the Bangsamoro
98 Government as may be determined under the implementing rules of this Act;

- 99
100 b. Formulate plans, programs, and policies with the interagency working group
101 for the achievement of the purposes and objectives of this Act;
102
103 c. Establish and maintain an effective and reliable data-gathering and
1 evaluation mechanisms for the determination and screening of the qualified
105 beneficiaries under this Act;
106
107 d. Extend assistance, as determined in this Act, to qualified beneficiaries as
108 well as their spouses and minor children;
109
110 e. Make an updated list or register of qualified beneficiaries;
111
112 f. Determine other benefits, such as skills, socioeconomic and educational
113 trainings and seminars that may be availed of by the beneficiaries of this
114 Act; and
115
116 g. Such other relevant functions as may be provided under the implementing
117 rules of this Act or as may be assigned by the Chief Minister or the Minister
118 of the MPOS.
119

120 **Section 10. Scope.** – The benefits and privileges provided under this Act shall
121 be available to the underprivileged Veteran Mujahideen as defined in Section 4 of this
122 Act. The two (2) Thousand cash allowance as provided in paragraph (a) of Section 12
1 shall be granted to the spouse and children of Veteran Mujahideen within five (5)
1 years from the time of his death.

125 The same benefits and privileges shall not be available to those Veteran
126 Mujahideen who receive benefits and privileges under the decommissioning process
127 as part of the normalization.
128

129 **Section 11. Other Qualified Beneficiaries.** – The interagency working group
130 may identify other qualified beneficiaries who are not official members of the MILF
131 or MNLF as may be recommended by the Minister of the MPOS and subject to the
132 approval of the Chief Minister, provided that they possess the following requirements:
133

- 134 a. They are at least seventy (70) years of age from the time of the effectivity
135 of this Act;
136
137 b. They are underprivileged and have no sufficient means of support;
138
139 c. They had actually took part in any of the encounters between the MILF or
140 MNLF and the forces of the National Government in connection with the
1 struggle for right to self-determination; and
1
143
144 d. They can provide sufficient proof of such participation.

146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194

Section 12. *Benefits and Privileges.* – The underprivileged Veteran Mujahideen and other qualified beneficiaries shall be entitled to receive or enjoy the following benefits and privileges:

- a. Six (6) Thousand Pesos (PhP 6,000) monthly cash allowance;
- b. Free medical assistance from any of the BARMM-Ministry of Health supervised facilities, health centers, and hospitals;
- c. Twenty percent (20%) discount on the sale of goods and services from any establishments within BARMM, as identified in the implementing rules of this Act, for their exclusive use and enjoyment or availment;
- d. Exemption from taxes, fees, and other charges imposed by the Bangsamoro Government;
- e. Ten percent (10) discount from electric, water, and other similar utilities computed proportionately based on the numbers of actual occupants of the household they are actually residing;
- f. Exemption from fees for skills, socioeconomic, and educational trainings or seminars conducted by any public or private institutions within BARMM; and
- g. Such other benefits and privileges as may thereafter be determined by law.

Section 13. *Appropriation* – The initial amount of thirty (30) Million necessary to finance the implementation of this Act is hereby appropriated and shall be charged to the available funds of the Bangsamoro Treasury. Thereafter, the annual budget of the office shall be provided in the Annual Bangsamoro Appropriations Act as part of the annual budget appropriated for the MPOS.

Section 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Ministry of Public Order and Safety and the Attorney General’s Office shall formulate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act in order to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 15. *Separability Clause* – Should any provision of this Act be subsequently declared unconstitutional or illegal, the other provisions not so affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 16. *Repealing Clause* – All regional laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or any part thereof, which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 17. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect fifteen days after its publication in a newspaper of regional circulation in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

194
195
196
197
198
199
200
2
202
203
204
205
206
207
208
209
210
211
212
213
214
215
216
217
218
219
2
2
222
223
224
225
226
227
228
229
230
231
232
233
234

Approved:

ALI PANGALIAN BALINDONG
Speaker

Author:



MP AIDA M. SILONGAN

MP ABDULRAOF MACACUA

Co-authors:

ALL MILF MP'S AND MNLF MP'S

- 1. MP SUSANA ANAYATIN**
- 2. MP MAISARA DANDAMUN-LATIPH**
- 3. MP ZULQARNYN ABAS**
- 4. MP SAHIE SAPPAYANI UDJAH**
- 5. MP ALZAD SATTAR**
- 6. MP DON LOONG**
- 7. MP DIAMILA RAMOS**
- 8. MP BAI INTAN AMPATUAN**
- 9. MP ATTY. LAISA ALAMIA**
- 10. MP ATTY. NABIL TAN**
- 11. MP ATTY JOSE LORENA AND**
- 12. MP JAMEL MACARAYA**
- 13. MP ATTY. HAMID BARRA**
- 14. MP MUSA DIAMLA**

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

RECEIVED

By: **NORIA Y. TAHA**

Signature: _____

Date: 10-24-19

Time: 11:01

