



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6383

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BY REPRESENTATIVES GOLEZ, DEFENSOR (M.), ARNAIZ, DOMOGAN, COQUILLA,  
MITRA, ALVAREZ (A.), ZIALCITA, DUMARPA AND CODILLA, PER  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO 2042

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AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6981, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE “WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT  
ACT”, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 8, paragraphs (e) and (g) of Republic Act  
2   No. 6981, otherwise known as the “Witness Protection, Security and Benefit  
3   Act” is hereby amended to read as follows:

4                   “SEC. 8. *Rights and Benefits.* – The Witness shall have  
5   the following rights and benefits:

6                   “a) x x x

7                   “b) x x x

8                   “c) x x x

9                   “d) x x x

10                  “e) To be provided with **NEEDED** free medical treatment,  
11   hospitalization and medicines **PARTICULARLY** for any injury,

1 [or] illness OR ANY OTHER MEDICAL CONDITION incurred or  
2 suffered by him/HER [because of] WHILE ON witness duty OR  
3 WHILE IN THE SAFEHOUSE in any private or public hospital,  
4 clinic, or at any such institution at the expense of the Program.

5 "WITNESS DUTY SHALL INCLUDE THE ATTENDANCE OF  
6 THE WITNESS IN THE COURT, BODY OR AUTHORITY WHERE  
7 HIS/HER TESTIMONY IS REQUIRED AS WELL AS CONFERENCES  
8 AND INTERVIEWS WITH PROSECUTORS OR INVESTIGATING  
9 OFFICERS. A WITNESS WHO IS RELOCATED TO AN ACCREDITED  
10 WITNESS PROTECTION SECURITY AND BENEFIT PROGRAM  
11 (WPSBP) SAFEHOUSE/TEMPORARY SHELTER SHALL BE  
12 CONSIDERED TO BE UNDER WITNESS DUTY.

13 "f) x x x

14 "g) [In case of death or permanent incapacity, his] THE  
15 WITNESS' minor or dependent children shall be entitled to free  
16 education, from primary to college level in any state[, or private]  
17 school, college or university [as may be determined by the  
18 Department,] as long as they shall have qualified thereto. THE  
19 EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT HEREIN PROVIDED CAN BE AVAILED BY  
20 THE WITNESS' MINOR OR DEPENDENT CHILDREN DURING  
21 HIS/HER ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM AND UP TO ONE (1)  
22 YEAR AFTER THE TERMINATION OF HIS/HER WITNESS DUTY."

23 SEC. 2. A new section shall be inserted between Section 12 and Section  
24 13 of the same Act, which shall read as follows:

25 a) "SEC. 12-A. *PERPETUATION OF TESTIMONY.* – A  
26 WITNESS ONCE ADMITTED INTO THE PROGRAM SHALL

1           **PERPETUATE HIS/HER TESTIMONY PURSUANT TO RULE 134 OF**  
2           **THE REVISED RULES OF COURT.”**

3           SEC. 3. The Department of Justice shall promulgate the necessary rules  
4 and regulations to implement this Act.

5           SEC. 4. If any section or provision of this Act shall be declared  
6 unconstitutional or invalid, such shall not invalidate any other section of this  
7 Act.

8           SEC. 5. All laws, decrees, orders, rules, regulations, ordinances or parts  
9 thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
10 accordingly

11          SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its publication  
12 in at least two (2) general newspapers of national circulation.

          Approved,

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