

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
H. No. 2868

Introduced by **Representative Raul C. Tupas**

**AN ACT INCREASING THE MONTHLY SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS  
AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE THEREOF**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The 1987 Constitution provides under Sec. 11 of Article 13 that, "The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children." It further provides under Section 4, Article XV that, "The family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the State may also do so through just programs of social security."

This proposed measure seeks to amend Republic Act No. 9994 or the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010 in order to a) increase the amount of social pension that our senior citizens are receiving from Php500 per month to Php1,000, and b) expand the coverage of beneficiaries to include those without any form of pension.

According to a study published by the Coalition of Services of the Elderly (COSE) on Universal Social Pension, over half of senior citizens or at least 54 percent receive no pension at all. Most senior citizens have to look to their families for financial support in old age. However, this is often too limited because of widespread poverty and vulnerability amongst Filipino families.

The expansion of a social pension is seen not only as a way to enable older persons to live a dignified life where they can meet their own needs, but also to extend aid to their families in dire need of financial help.<sup>1</sup>

This bill will provide social protection to 5 million vulnerable senior citizens as well as much needed aid in terms of income augmentation. Hence, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**RAUL "BOBOY" C. TUPAS**

<sup>1</sup> COSE Universal Social Pension: Feasibility in the Philippines: Preliminary Findings

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No. 9257 and  
2 Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is  
3 hereby further amended to read as follows:

4

5 "Sec. 2. *Definition of Terms.* – For the purposes of this Act, these terms are  
6 defined as follows:

7 "x x x

8 [~~“(h) indigent senior citizen refers to any elderly who is frail, sickly, or with  
9 disability, and without pension or permanent source of income, compensation  
10 or financial assistance from his/her relatives to support his/her basic needs, as  
11 determined by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in  
12 consultation with the National Coordinating and Monitoring Board.]~~

13 **“(h) SOCIAL PENSION REFERS TO THE MONTHLY STIPEND OR  
14 MONETARY GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO AUGMENT THE DAILY  
15 SUBSISTENCE AND OTHER MEDICAL NEEDS OF SENIOR CITIZENS  
16 WHICH SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND PESOS  
17 (PHP1,000.00) PER MONTH.”**

18

19 **SECTION 2.** Section 5 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as  
20 follows:

21

22 "Sec. 5. *Government Assistance.* – The government shall provide the  
23 following:

24 "x x x"



1                   “(h) Additional Government Assistance

2                   (i)       Social Pension

3                   ~~[Indigent]~~ **ALL** senior citizens **WITHOUT PENSION** shall be entitled to  
4                   a monthly ~~[stipend amounting to Five hundred pesos P500.00]~~ **SOCIAL**  
5                   **PENSION OF AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND PESOS (PHP1,000.00)** to  
6                   augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior  
7                   citizens [  ~~, subject to a review every two (2) years by Congress, in~~  
8                   ~~consultation with DSWD].~~

9                   **“THE AMOUNT OF SOCIAL PENSION SHALL BE REVIEWED AND,**  
10                  **WHEN NECESSARY, ADJUSTED OR INCREASED BY THE DSWD**  
11                  **EVERY TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, IN**  
12                  **CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND**  
13                  **MANAGEMENT (DBM) AND OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS,**  
14                  **TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, THE**  
15                  **NATIONAL INFLATION RATE, AND OTHER RELEVANT ECONOMIC**  
16                  **INDICATORS, AS REPORTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE**  
17                  **PERTINENT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OR AUTHORITIES:**  
18                  **PROVIDED, THAT THE SOCIAL PENSION SHALL NOT BE LESS**  
19                  **THAN THE AMOUNT INITIALLY SPECIFIED IN THIS ACT.**

20                  “X X X.”

21  
22                  **SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or  
23                  unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full  
24                  force and effect.

25  
26                  **SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders or rules and  
27                  regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby  
28                  repealed or modified accordingly.

29  
30                  **SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
31                  publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

32                  Approved,