

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 656



Introduced by
HON. FRANCISCO "JUN" GAMBOA-DATOL, JR.
Representative, Senior Citizens Party-List

RESOLUTION

CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED ANOMALOUS AND ILLEGAL DELAY OR LACK OF DISBURSEMENT OF THE SOCIAL PENSION FUND TO SENIOR CITIZENS

WHEREAS, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9994, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010," in line with our constitutional and international obligations, mandates the provision of social pension to our qualified indigent senior citizens to help augment their daily subsistence and other medical needs through a monthly stipend amounting to Five Hundred Pesos (PhP 500.00).¹

WHEREAS, the Twenty-Three Billion Pesos (PhP23,000,000,000.00) budget appropriated for the Social Pension Program for Indigent Senior Citizens (SPPISC) is projected to benefit Three Million Seven Hundred Ninety-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-One (3,796,791) of our indigent senior citizens in 2019.²

WHEREAS, the social pension program has been critical and indispensable to the continued survival of our qualified indigent senior citizens.

WHEREAS, numerous reports by indigent senior citizens, which were received by our office from different localities, conveyed how there has been either an inordinate delay in the disbursement of their social pension or an anomalous denial of their application for the social pension under the SPPISC.

¹ Memorandum Circular No. 04 s. 2019, entitled "Omnibus Guidelines in the Implementation of the Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens."


² Department of Budget and Management, 23 August 2018. *P23 B appropriated in 2019 for Indigent Senior Citizens' Social Pension*. Retrieved from <https://www.dbm.gov.ph/index.php/secretary-s-corner/press-releases/list-of-press-releases/1160-p23-b-appropriated-in-2019-for-indigent-senior-citizens-social-pension>.

WHEREAS, the delay or lack of access to the SPPISC has severely prejudiced the welfare of our qualified indigent senior citizens by constricting their access to funds indispensable to their daily subsistence and medical needs. Thus, jeopardizing the goals sought by the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010 and our Constitution.

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional and statutory duty of Congress to prioritize and safeguard the welfare of our Three Million Seven Hundred Ninety-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-One (3,796,791) indigent senior citizens through an effective social security program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the appropriate committee of the House of Representatives conducts a review and investigation, in aid of legislation, over the effective implementation of the Social Pension Program for Indigent Senior Citizens, as provided for by R.A. 9994, and its effects to our indigent senior citizens.

Adopted,



HON. FRANCISCO G. DATOL, JR.
Representative
Senior Citizens Party List