AN ACT LOWERING THE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF GOVERNMENT WORKERS FROM SIXTY (60) TO FIFTY-SIX (56) YEARS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997”

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

SECTION 1. Section 13-A of Republic Act No. 8291, otherwise known as “The Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997”, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 13-A. Conditions for Entitlement. — A member who retires from the service shall be entitled to the retirement benefits enumerated in paragraph (a) of Section 13 hereof: Provided, That SUCH MEMBER:

"(1) [he] has rendered at least fifteen (15) years of service;

"(2) [he] is at least sixty (60) FIFTY-SIX (56) years of age at the time of retirement; and

“(3) [he] is not receiving a monthly pension benefit from permanent total disability.”

SEC. 2. This Act shall also apply to a qualified member who has retired or was separated from the service prior to the effectivity of this Act: Provided, That the benefits to be granted shall be prospective.

SEC. 3. Section 13-A of Republic Act No. 8291 is hereby amended. All other laws, executive orders, letters of instruction, rules and regulations or provisions thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.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,