

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 542



Introduced by **HONORABLE LANI MERCADO-REVILLA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article II, Section 9 mandates:

“Section 9. The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.”

Further, Article XVI, Section 7 states:

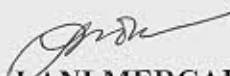
“Section 7. The State shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans.
xxx”

At present, our war veterans and their dependents receive a paltry pension from the government notwithstanding their bravery and loyalty to our country when our country needed them to risk their lives when the Philippines found itself at war to defend the sovereignty and independence of our country.

With the rising cost of basic necessities, our war veterans today could hardly live a humane and decent standard of living.

Therefore, there is a need to upgrade the pension and expand the benefits due our war veterans so they can provide for their subsistence needs and meet their mounting medical expenses that come with their progressively degenerating health conditions of ageing.

In this regard, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


REP. LANI MERCADO-REVILLA
2nd District, Cavite

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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A THREE THOUSAND PESO (PHP3,000.00) INCREASE IN THE MONTHLY PENSION OF WAR VETERANS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as “The Php3,000.00 Increase in the Monthly Pension for War Veterans Act of 2013”.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to alleviate the living conditions of the ordinary Filipino through policies that provide for a decent and humane standard of living and improved quality of life, particularly of the workers, both private and public; to free the people from poverty through policies that provide a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life for all; and to promote social justice through the adoption of measures calculated to ensure the well-being and economic security of all the members of the community.

Section 3. Increase in Monthly Pension – The monthly pension of all Filipino War Veterans shall be increased by Three Thousand Pesos (Php3,000.00) across the board.

Section 4. Rules of Succession of Beneficiaries – The monthly pension shall be granted directly to the war veteran, if he is still living. Upon the death or incapacity of the war veteran, his pension shall be released in favor of his surviving spouse and in the latter's death or incapacity, to the eldest legitimate child of the war veteran.

Section 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Department of National Defence (DND) shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

Section 6. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of National Defence (DND) under the current General Appropriations Act.

Section 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 8.. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders or issuances, or any parts thereof which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,