

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 4965

Introduced by HON. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA
4TH DISTRICT, BULACAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As a result of the recent advances in medicine and health care, the productive age of employees have largely been extended to even beyond 70 years old, especially in fields that are not physically demanding. In a recent study conducted by Dr. Ray Fair of Yale University, he maintained that septuagenarians show negligible signs of slowing down compared to their 45-year old counterparts. He concluded that societies may have been too pessimistic about losses from aging for individuals who stay healthy and fit.

Presently, however, the Government Service Insurance (GSIS) Act expressly provides for the mandatory retirement age for government employees is sixty five (65) years old. This compulsory requirement is the age pre-determined by the government when an employee is deemed already unfit to keep his or her employment. Optional retirement is a benefit available to employees who have rendered the minimum number of years to service. This would allow them to claim the retirement benefits at the earliest possible opportunity.

This bill seeks to increase the compulsory retirement age to 70 years old, to enable society to benefit from the expertise of our public servants for a longer period and allow more time for our insurance system to prepare for their retirement. On the part of the employees, they will be able to benefit from continued employment and retire at the age when they are more ready to be on their own.

Support for the enactment of this bill is earnestly requested.



REP. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA

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AN ACT RAISING THE AGE OF COMPULSORY RETIREMENT FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES FROM SIXTY FIVE (65) TO SEVENTY (70) YEARS OLD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13 OF R.A. No. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS) ACT OF 1997

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

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

“Section 13. *Retirement Benefits.* - (a) Retirement benefit shall be:

x x x

“(2) cash payment equivalent to eighteen (18) months of his basic monthly pension plus monthly pension for life payable immediately with no five (5) – year guarantee.

“(b) Unless the service is extended by appropriate authorities, retirement shall be compulsory for an employee at SEVENTY (70) years of age with at least fifteen (15) years of service, he may be allowed to continue in the service in accordance with existing civil service rules and regulations.”

SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,