

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. _____



Introduced by BAYAN MUNA
Representatives NERI J. COLMENARES and CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE

**AN ACT INCREASING PENSIONS
UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 12 OF R.A. 1161, AS AMENDED,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

House Bill 6748 increasing the pensions of retired SSS members was passed by the House of Representatives last Congress. Unfortunately, its counterpart bill in the Senate failed to pass. We need to pass this Bill once more in the earliest possible time. The 16th Congress will always be remembered by our senior citizens should we succeed in this historic task. We ask for its immediate approval.

A large number of SSS pensioners have further suffered difficulties owing to the continuing escalation of the cost of living in the country, which is due, in large part, to the downturn of the global economy. The amount that these retirees receive as their monthly pension is rendered sadly inadequate to meet even the barest of their needs.

Under the new Social Security Act, otherwise known as Republic Act No. 8262, SSS members with at least 10 credited years of service are provided a monthly pension of P1,200.00, while those with 20 credited years are given P2,400.00. Those who retired under the old SSS Law, R.A. 1161, are even more hard pressed because their monthly pension pays much less.

During the 15th Congress, House Bill 4365 was filed by Bayan Muna Party-List that sought to increase the minimum SSS pension to P7,000. Bayan Muna launched a nationwide campaign to gather support for the said bill to be enacted into law. Thousands of SSS pensioners and senior citizens, as well as Local Government Units from all over the country, responded through petitions, resolutions, letters, and telephone calls/messages which only reflected that there was indeed a clamor for higher SSS pension rate. After a series of congressional hearings with consultations with Senior Citizens and the SSS management in between, however, Congress was able to pass on third reading HB 6748 adding only P1,000 - P2,000 to the current minimum SSS Pension. However, the Senate failed to pass their counterpart bills then authored by four Senators.

While also pushing for an increase in the SSS pension, the authors believe that there was no need for a corresponding increase in the SSS premium to the pension increases because data on SSS investments, income and collectibles from delinquent employers show that SSS is capable of doing so. However, the premiums were inevitably increased by the President, and without a corresponding increase in the pension rate.

This bill seeks to increase the current SSS pension rate to make it more responsive to the basic necessities of SSS pensioners. Immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought for the benefit of SSS pensioners who are mostly Senior Citizens with no other sources of income to support their, and their family's ever increasing needs.

We passed the SSS Pension Increase Bill in the 15th Congress. Let us give a resounding yes to this bill in the 16th Congress and pass the SSS Pension Bill.

Approved,


Rep. NERI J. COLMENARES
Bayan Muna Party-List


Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Party-List

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 175

Introduced by BAYAN MUNA
Representatives NERI J. COLMENARES and CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE

**AN ACT INCREASING PENSIONS
UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 12 OF R.A. 1161, AS AMENDED,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW**

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

SECTION 1. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 1161, as amended by Republic Act No. 8282, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 12. *Monthly Pension.* –

(a) The monthly pension shall be the highest of the following amounts:

“(1) The sum of the following:

“(i) Three hundred pesos (P300); plus

“(ii) Twenty percent (20%) of the average monthly salary credit; plus

“(iii) Two percent (2%) of the average monthly salary credit for each credited year of service in excess of ten (10) years; or

“(2) Forty percent (40%) of the average monthly salary credit; or

“(3) One thousand pesos (P1,000): *Provided*, That the monthly pension shall in no case be paid for an aggregate amount of less than sixty (60) months.

“(b) Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the minimum **MONTHLY** pension shall be [One thousand two hundred pesos (P1,200)] **FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (5,000.00)** [for members with at least ten (10) credited years of service and

Two thousand four hundred pesos (P2,400)] for those with twenty (20) credited years of service.

“THE NEW INCREASES SHALL BE GIVEN IN TWO EQUAL INSTALLMENTS AND MUST BE COMPLETED IN THREE (3) YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT.

“THE COMMISSION SHALL EQUITABLY AND PROPORTIONATELY ADJUST THE MONTHLY PENSION OF OTHER ENTITLED MEMBERS OR BENEFICIARIES INCLUDING THOSE WITH LESS THAN TWENTY (20) CREDITED YEARS OF SERVICE TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY AND FAIRNESS OF THE PENSION PROGRAM.”

SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision of this Act or any part thereof be declared invalid, the other provisions, so far as they are separable from the invalid ones, shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,