

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2958



Introduced by **Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Good governance, in the context of sound and rational budgeting and fiscal management, dictates that a Special Social Pension Program for a particular population segment of our senior citizens be put in place to fully democratize social and welfare benefits to those in need, or otherwise indigent.

Indigent senior citizens shall be liberally defined as those who are frail, sickly, with disability and without pension or permanent source of income or regular support from relatives to meet basic needs such as that determined by the DSWD National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR)

This conception translates in 1.3 million senior citizens who shall enjoy social pension from government starting off with ARMM, those from Regions V, VI and VII where poverty incidence are in significant high. This however, does not limit entitlement for senior citizens who are assessed to be qualified and deserving of the entitlement under this proposed program that initially targets poor or indigent senior citizens.

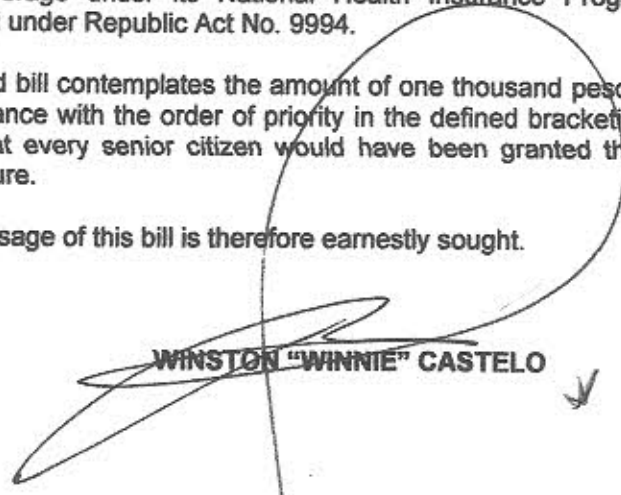
This bill is conceived to hit the ground running. Thus, it contemplates an earmarking of government state subsidies for senior citizens in some order of priority as herein proposed, as follows:

1. 80 years old and below shall constitute first priority
2. 70 to 79 years old shall constitute second priority
3. 60 to 69 years old shall constitute third priority

At this juncture, there are LGUs that grant quarterly allowances for senior citizens, a mandatory PhilHealth coverage under its National Health Insurance Program, as well as incentives as those granted under Republic Act No. 9994.

Thus, this proposed bill contemplates the amount of one thousand pesos (P1,000.00) as monthly pension in accordance with the order of priority in the defined bracketing system based on age until such time that every senior citizen would have been granted the social pension sought for under this measure.

The immediate passage of this bill is therefore earnestly sought.


WINSTON "WINNIE" CASTELO

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AN ACT
GRANTING SOCIAL PENSION TO POOR OR INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS
IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000.00) MONTHLY
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens Act of 2013.

SEC. 2. Every poor or indigent senior citizen based on set eligibility and pertinent requirements as may be determined by the Department of Social Welfare and Development shall henceforth receive a monthly social pension in the amount of one thousand pesos (P1,000.00).

SEC. 3. Highest priority shall be extended to those poor or indigent senior citizens 80 years old and above, followed by those 70 to 79 years old and further by those 60 to 69 years of age, provided however, that they should not be receiving pension from GSIS, SSS or AFP-MBAI and any other insurance company.

SEC. 4. The DSWD shall issue appropriate rules, regulations, and guidelines to properly implement the provision of this Act.

SEC. 5 This Act shall take effect fifteen days after its approval and its publication in at least four (4) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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