

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

17th Congress
Third Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. **7983**



Introduced by: **HON. LORNA C. SILVERIO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the former Indian President and coincidentally also a renowned scientist A.P.J Abdul Kalam, "Teaching is a very noble profession that shapes the character, caliber, and the future of an individual. If the people remember me as a good teacher, that will be the biggest honour for me". This only shows the importance of the teachers in our society who are the "molders of minds" of people who thirst for knowledge.

This bill recognizes the work-life balance of the often stressed out teachers who have multiple workloads at school. Oftentimes, public school teachers' deal with common problems associated to their profession such as meager salaries, overcrowded classrooms, and dilapidated facilities which makes teaching harder under certain conditions. There is a pressing need for public school teachers to at least have an option to look forward to, which is to consider retirement at an earlier age of 55 y/o to be able to literally enjoy the fruits of their toil.

Let us leave the choice to the public school teacher if he or she decides to opt to retire early, but let us make the law flexible for our hardworking public servants if they deem it necessary to do so.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


LORNA C. SILVERIO

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AN ACT LOWERING THE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM SIXTY (60) YEARS OLD TO FIFTY-FIVE (55) YEARS OLD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "GOVERNMENT INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997".

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

SEC 1. Section 13-A of Republic Act no. 8291, or the Revised Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997, is hereby amended as follows:

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

"(1) he or she has rendered at least fifteen (15) years of service;

"(2) he or she is at least sixty (60) years of age at the time of retirement, or at least fifty-five (55) years of age in the case of public school teachers; and

"(3) he or she is not receiving a monthly pension benefit from permanent total disability".

SEC 2. The provisions in pertinent implementing rules and regulations and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

