

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10659



Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito-Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

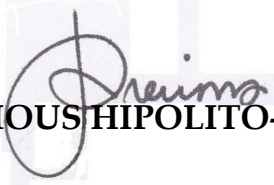
Senior citizens have valuable contribution in nation-building. The vast experience, knowledge and values they impart to their families and to the society are truly remarkable.

Sad to say, however that there are many senior citizens who have no permanent source of income or do not receive financial assistance from relatives to support their basic needs. These make them struggle during old ages.

Considering that senior citizens belong to the vulnerable sector of the society, they should be protected and covered from loss of income and unemployment.

This proposed measure seeks to grant a financial assistance to senior citizens who are not receiving any social pension from government or private institution and no permanent source of income or regular support from his/her relatives, in order to improve their living condition.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is most earnestly sought.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO-CASTELO

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING SOCIAL PENSION FUND FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “*Social Pension Fund for Senior Citizens*”.

SECTION 2. Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution provides that State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers.

Further, Article XV, Section 4 of the 1987 Constitution mandates that the family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the State may do so through just programs of social security.

SECTION 3. In pursuance thereto, Section 5 (h) (1) of Republic Act No. 9994 otherwise known as the Expanded Senior Citizen's Act of 2010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 5 Government Assistance – The government shall provide the following:

xxx

(h) Additional Government Assistance

(1) Social Pension

SENIOR CITIZENS WHO ARE NOT RECEIVING ANY PENSION FROM THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM, THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM, AND OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM, AND NO PERMANENT SOURCE OF INCOME OR REGULAR SUPPORT FROM HIS/HER RELATIVES shall be entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00) to augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens, subject to review every two (2) years by Congress, in consultation with DSWD."

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SECTION 4. Every two (2) years, the Department of Social Welfare and Development shall submit a report to Congress on the implementation of the provisions of this law. The DSWD will provide recommendation on the appropriate amount of pension based on inflation and economic growth.

SECTION 5. *Appropriations.* The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be sourced from the funds of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO).

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* If any provision or section of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions and sections not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, or issuances, or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.