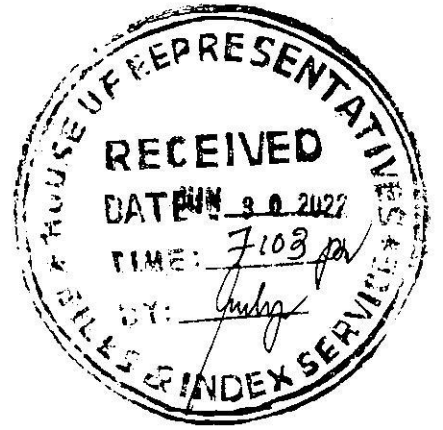


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 553



Introduced by
ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO,
GABRIELA Women's Party Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS,
and **KABATAAN Party-List Rep. RAOUL DANNIEL A. MANUEL**

AN ACT
INCREASING THE PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE
GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES TO FIVE THOUSAND
(P5,000) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

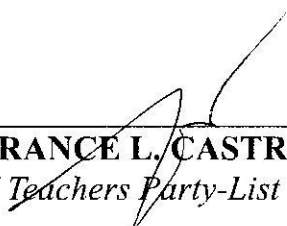
The Personnel Economic Relief Allowance (PERA) was first granted to government employees in 1991, in the amount of P500 per month. Joint Resolution 4, issued by the House of Representatives and the Senate on 17 June 2009, mandated that the P1,500 Additional Compensation and the P500 PERA, with a total of P2,000, shall thenceforth be collectively referred to as PERA.

The PERA is granted monthly to all public sector employees, whether paid on salary, wage, or base pay basis, across all agencies. This benefit is considered as a supplement to the basic compensation of government employees due to the rising cost of living.

The last adjustment of PERA was in 2009 or 13 years ago, a timely increase will therefore offer government personnel more substantial relief from the erosion of purchasing power of public sector salaries and wages due to inflation and increasing price of commodities and services. For this purpose, this bill proposes that the PERA be increased to P5,000.

The need for economic relief and increased financial amelioration is now more dire, considering that the people, especially those in the lower and middle-income earning families, are struggling not just with skyrocketing prices of basic goods and services, but also with the greater costs for health services brought by the COVID-19 pandemic.

For these reasons, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



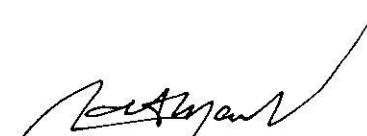
Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO

ACT Teachers Party-List



Rep. ARLINE D. BROSAS

GABRIELA Women's Party



Rep. RAOUL DANNIEL A. MANUEL

KABATAAN Party-List

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(P5,000) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Augmentation of the Personnel Economic Relief Allowance.* The Personnel Economic Relief Allowance (PERA) is hereby increased from the present Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000) per month to Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000) per month. The PERA shall henceforth be referred to as the Augmented Personal Economic Relief Allowance (APERA).

SEC. 2. *Coverage.* The APERA shall be granted to civilian government personnel whether employed by the national or local governments, appointive or elective, and whether occupying regular, contractual, or casual positions, whose positions are covered by Republic Act 6758, otherwise known as the "Compensation and Position Classification Act of 1989," as amended, as well as military and uniformed personnel, Provided, that the government personnel stationed abroad already receiving overseas allowances shall not be entitled to APERA.

SEC. 3. *Appropriations.* The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from current appropriations. Thereafter, funds needed in subsequent years shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

For local government units, the APERA shall be charged against their respective local funds. Any deficiency shall be charged against the balances of the Internal Revenue Allotments, which are hereby authorized to be realigned for the purpose. Thereafter, the amount necessary shall be provided in the respective local budgets.

SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Department of Budget and Management shall issue implementing rules and regulations within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional, all other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, rules and regulations, and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or one (1) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,