

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2229



Introduced by Hon. MARVIN C. RILLO
Representative, Fourth District, Quezon City

**“AN ACT EXPANDING THE INVOLUNTARY SEPARATION BENEFIT,
AMENDING, FOR THE PURPOSE, SECTION 14-B OF THE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 11199, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF
2018”**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 17th Congress passed the Republic Act No. 11199, otherwise known as the Social Security Law of 2018, to improve and expand the benefits of workers in the private sector.

One of the new benefits introduced was the involuntary unemployment insurance benefit for Social Security System (SSS) members who suffer job loss due to retrenchment or downsizing, closure or cessation of operation of a business, redundancy, the installation of labor-saving devices, or disease/illness of the employee whose continued employment is prohibited by law or is prejudicial to his or her co-employees' health.

Under the law, covered SSS members, including overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), are entitled to an unemployment insurance payment equal to 50 percent of their average monthly salary credit (AMSC) for two months, should they be involuntarily separated from their jobs.

Thus, a displaced worker with an AMSC of P20,000 gets a payment of P10,000 per month for two months, or a total of P20,000.

To avail of the benefit, the laid off worker must have paid at least 36 monthly contributions to the SSS, 12 months of which should be inside the 18-month period immediately preceding the month of involuntary separation.

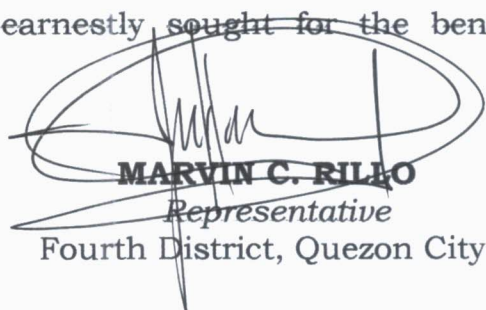
In 2020, the SSS paid over P1.71 billion in unemployment benefits to 135,814 members whose jobs were destroyed by the COVID-19 pandemic. From January to June 2021, the SSS paid another P732.15 million in unemployment benefits to 54,282 members.

This bill seeks to amend RA No. 11199 so that solo parents, as defined under the Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act of 2022, shall be entitled to receive involuntary separation benefits equivalent to 100 percent of their AMSC for two months.

Being the only breadwinner in the household, solo parents are more vulnerable and face greater financial hardship when they lose their jobs

through no fault of their own. They, therefore, deserve higher involuntary separation benefits.

The approval of this bill is earnestly sought for the benefit of solo parents.



MARVIN C. RILLO
Representative
Fourth District, Quezon City

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MARVIN C. RILLO

**AN ACT EXPANDING THE INVOLUNTARY SEPARATION BENEFIT,
AMENDING SECTION 14-B OF THE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11199,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 2018”**

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

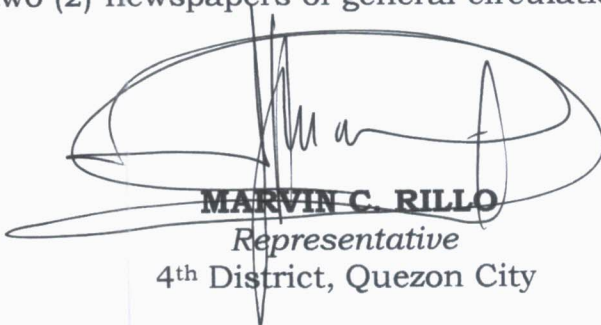
Section 1. Section 14-B of Republic Act No. 11199 is hereby amended to read
as follows:

“Section 14-B. Involuntary Unemployment Insurance or Separation Benefits. – A member who is not over sixty (60) years of age who has paid at least thirty-six (36) months contributions, twelve (12) months of which should be in the eighteen-month period immediately preceding the involuntary unemployment or separation, shall be paid benefits in the form of monthly cash payments equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the average monthly salary credit for a maximum of two (2) months: Provided, That, in the case of an involuntarily separated member who is a solo parent as defined under the Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act, or Republic Act No. 11861, the benefit that is due him or her under this section shall be in the form of monthly cash payments equivalent to one-hundred percent (100%) of the average monthly salary credit for a maximum of two (2) months; Provided, further, That an employee who is involuntarily unemployed can only claim unemployment benefits once every three (3) years; Provided, finally, That in case of concurrence of two or more compensable contingencies, only the highest benefit shall be paid, subject to the rules and regulations that the Commission may prescribe.

Section 2. Repealing Clause. – All acts, laws, decrees, executive orders, letters of instructions and regulations or any part thereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

Section 3. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved.



MARVIN C. RILLO
Representative
4th District, Quezon City