

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. B. No. 3557

Introduced by Representative Ralph G. Recto

AN ACT

INCREASING TO THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000) THE MONTHLY PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE (PERA) GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Thirty-one years ago, the Personnel Economic Relief Allowance (PERA) was conceived to shield the salaries of public sector employees from the ravages of inflation brought about by two debilitating oil price hikes in the latter part of 1990 and to prepare them against the possible economic fallout from the Gulf War.

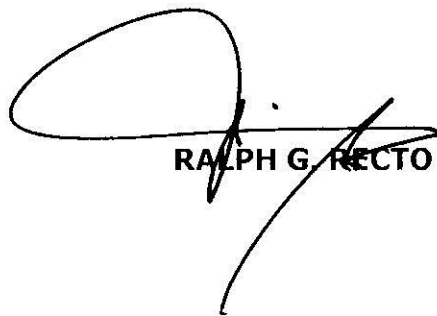
The PERA was intended to help the civil servants tide over increasing cost of living until the crisis had subsided. But the financial crisis never left; on the contrary, it grew worse. Thus, in order to improve the purchasing power of the peso, which has been eroded through time, President Fidel Ramos signed Administrative Order No. 53 in 1993, implementing the grant of additional compensation in the amount of Five Hundred Pesos (P500) per month to public school teachers, uniformed personnel of the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and extending the benefit to the rest of the personnel of the government.

On June 17, 2009, Joint Resolution Number 4 mandated that the Additional Compensation in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500) and the Five Hundred Pesos (P500) PERA, be collectively referred to as PERA in the amount of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000).

This bill seeks to increase the monthly PERA granted to public sector employees to P3,000 in order to supplement the public employees' salaries in the midst of rising cost of living and to make their total compensation approximate those received in the private sector. Furthermore, increasing the monthly PERA will provide much needed relief amidst rapidly increasing prices on food and fuel.

Increasing the salaries of our public servants is a means of recognizing the value of their contribution to public service, which should not go unreciprocated. No matter how minimal, such increase would definitely redound to an energized and motivated public service corps who would perform and deliver the government's performance targets.

I invite Presidential endorsement of the bill even as I urge immediate action on it.



RALPH G. RECTO

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

1 Section 1. *Increase in Monthly Allowance.* – The Personnel Economic Relief
2 Allowance (PERA) granted to government employees is hereby increased from the
3 present Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000) per month to Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000)
4 per month effective January 1, 2023.

5 Sec. 2. *Coverage.* – The PERA shall be granted to civilian government personnel
6 whether employed by the national or local governments, appointive or elective, and
7 whether occupying regular, contractual, or casual positions, whose positions are
8 covered by Republic Act No. 6758, otherwise known as the “Compensation and
9 Position Classification Act of 1989,” as amended, as well as to military and uniformed
10 personnel.

11 Sec. 3. *Funding.* – The funds necessary to implement the benefit herein
12 authorized for national government employees shall be included in the annual General
13 Appropriations Act.

14 For Local Government Units (LGUs), the benefit shall be charged against
15 respective local funds. Any deficiency shall be charged against the unexpended
16 balances of CY 2022 Appropriations of LGUs which are hereby authorized to be

1 realigned for the purpose herein. Thereafter, the amount necessary shall be provided
2 in their respective annual local budgets.

3 For Government-Owned and/or -Controlled Corporations, the benefit shall be
4 charged against their respective corporate funds.

5 Sec. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within thirty (30) days from the
6 approval of this Act, the Department of Budget and Management shall issue the
7 implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

8 Sec. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or
9 portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
10 accordingly.

11 Sec. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
12 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,