

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5213



Introduced by Representative Joseph Gilbert F. Violago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This commendable bill had been filed in the 17th and 18th Congress and the present proponent is acknowledging the wisdom and hard work of his predecessors.

This aim of this bill is to lower the optional retirement age for government workers from age 60 to 56 years old so they can enjoy their hard-earned benefits for their own personal satisfaction like travel, new career, or business and the like.

While early retirement may be a cause for added expenses and lesser retirement benefits that government workers can take home, they are given optional retirement because they can discern what is best for them. They still are at the best position to know when the perfect time is to retire from public service. Granting optional early retirement to our dedicated and industrious government workers will save them from using their hard-earned retirement benefits for medical bills due to the emotional and mental stress caused by their work, which in turn, has affected their physical well-being.

Finally, it is the policy of the State to ensure an improved quality of life for all. It shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Hence, this measure aims to ensure that government workers may be given the opportunity make the most out of their years of serving the country.

In view of the foregoing, the urgent passage of this measure is sought.


JOSEPH GILBERT F. VIOLAGO

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AN ACT
LOWERING THE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF GOVERNMENT
WORKERS FROM SIXTY (60) YEARS TO FIFTY-SIX (56) YEARS, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT 8291, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS "THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF
1997"

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

SECTION 1. Section 13-A of Republic Act 8291, otherwise known as "*The Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997*" is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 13-A. *Conditions for Entitlement.* — A member who retires from the service shall be entitled to the retirement benefits enumerated in paragraph (a) of Section 13 hereof: *Provided, That SUCH MEMBER:*

- (1) [he] has rendered at least fifteen (15) years of service;
- (2) [he] is at least [sixty (60)] **FIFTY-SIX (56)** years of age at the time of retirement;
and
- (3) [he] is not receiving a monthly pension benefit from permanent total disability.

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause* All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,