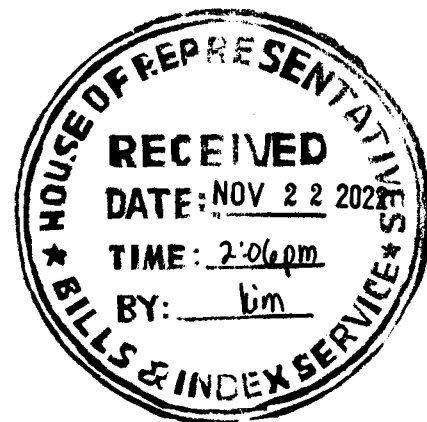




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6292

Introduced by Representative Irwin C. Tieng

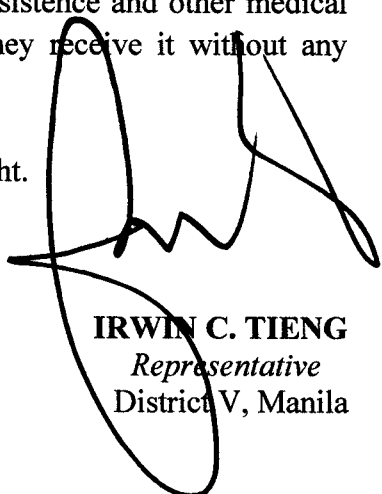
EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is recognize in our 1987 Constitution that although the family has the obligation to care for its elderly members, the State may also provide just programs of social security¹. Currently, senior citizens receive different kinds of pension such as contributory pensions (Social Security System, Government Service Insurance System, and others), and social pension for indigent senior citizens in the amount of 1,000 pesos (from 500 pesos). Sadly, thirty-eight percent (38%) of the senior citizens do not receive any pension at all.²

With the universal social pension, the State recognizes the contribution of all senior citizens in nation-building. It closes the pension coverage gap, the thirty-eight percent, and provides a strong foundation for the development of the pension system.³ A study shows that compared to indigent senior citizen social pension, universal social pension is more transparent and easy to understand which creates less space for corruption and clientelism.⁴

The universal social pension will not only augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizen but it will also boost their morale as they receive it without any qualifications.

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



IRWIN C. TIENG
Representative
District V, Manila

¹ Section 4, Article XV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution

² Horn, David, Charles Knox-Vydmanov, and Aura Sevilla. "The Feasibility of a Universal Social Pension in the Philippines". Quezon City: Coalition of Services for the Elderly, and HelpAge International, 2017

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid



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NINETEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 6292

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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION TO ALL SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 7432, AS AMENDED.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No. 9257, further amended by Republic Act No. 9994, as amended by Republic Act No. 11916, is hereby further amended as follows:

“Section 5. Section 5 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

X X X X

“(h) Additional Government Assistance

(1) [Mandatory] **UNIVERSAL** Social Pension

[Indigent] **ALL** senior citizens shall be entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to not less than One thousand pesos (P1,000.00) to augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens.

The DSWD shall, subject to the approval of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), in consultation with other stakeholders, review and, when necessary, adjust the amount of the **UNIVERSAL** social pension every two (2) years after the effectivity of this Act, taking into account the present consumer price index as published by the

PSA and relevant economic indicators, as reported and published by pertinent government agencies and authorities.

x x x x.”

SECTION 5. *Separability Clause*—If any provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause*—All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,