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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

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HOUSE BILL NO. 10514

Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE "JINKY BITRICS" R. LUISTRO

AN ACT PROVIDING AN INCREASE AND AN AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM IN THE PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE (PERA) GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Personnel Economic Allowance Relief Allowance was first granted to government employees 1991 to cushion the impact of the Gulf War on oil and consequently, on basic commodities. Through Administrative Order 53 s. 1993, former President Ramos, government employees were entitled to an additional compensation Five hundred pesos (P500.00) per month, which included public school teachers, uniformed personnel of the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and extending it to the rest of the personnel of the government.

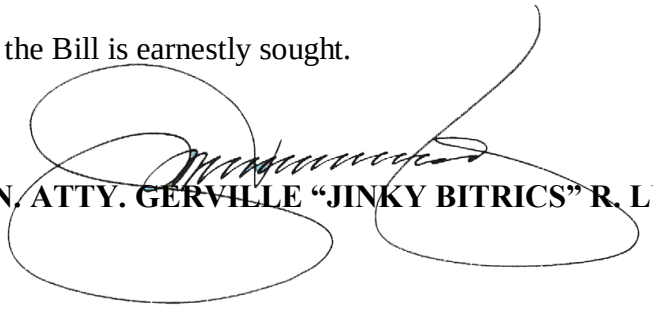
On June 17, 2009, 16 years later, Congress passed Joint Resolution No.4, mandating the One thousand five hundred pesos (P1500.00) Additional Compensation and the Five hundred pesos (P500.00), be collectively referred to as PERA in the amount of Two thousand pesos (P2000.00), effectively increasing the amount of take-home-pay of government employees amidst the rising cost of living.

It has been 15 years since the last increase in PERA; inflation has caught up. To put things into perspective: based on the latest salary schedule from Republic Act 11466 or the Salary Standardization Law of 2019, the salary of a Salary Grade 1 public sector employee is equal to Thirteen thousand pesos (P13,000.00) at Step 1 up to Thirteen thousand seven hundred eighty

pesos (P13,780). This may well place them below the poverty line; the Preliminary 2023 First Semester Official Poverty Statistics from the Philippine Statistics Authority determined that on average, a family of five will need at least Thirteen thousand seven hundred ninety-seven pesos (P13,797.00) to meet their basic food and non-food needs in the first semester of 2023.

This bill seeks to increase the monthly PERA received by government employees amidst the continuing barrage of inflation on basic commodities. More than achieving the aim to help public sector employees make end meets or increasing their motivation, this bill is in recognition, however minimal it might be, to the tireless and often thankless effort they put in delivering public service.

In view of the foregoing, approval of the Bill is earnestly sought.



HON. ATTY. GERVILLE "JINKY BITRICS" R. LUISTRO

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

SECTION 1. *Personnel Economic Relief Allowance (PERA)*. - The Personnel Economic Relief Allowance being granted to employees of the government shall be subject to an automatic yearly adjustment equivalent to any increase of the annual inflation rate in the country.

Concomitantly, upon the effectivity of this Act, the current PERA in the amount of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000) per month is hereby adjusted to Four Thousand (P4,000) per month.

SECTION 2. *Coverage*. The PERA 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 No. 6758, the "Compensation and Position Classification Act of 1989," as amended, as well as

military and uniformed personnel: *Provided*, That government personnel stationed abroad already receiving overseas allowances shall not be entitled to the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 3. *Appropriations*. Necessary appropriations for the benefit herein authorized shall be as follows:

a. For National Government Agencies (NGAs), to be charged against the annual General Appropriations Act,
b. For Local Government Units (LGUs), to be charged against respective local funds,
c. For Government-Owned and/or -Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), to be charged against their respective corporate funds.

Funding deficiencies in the first year of implementation of this Act shall be charged from the savings or unexpended funding of each respective NGA/LGU/GOCC following rules governing their use as set by the Department of Budget and Management. Thereafter, the amount necessary shall be provided in the respective budgets of NGAs/LGUs/GOCCs.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. - The Department of Budget and Management shall issue the corresponding implementing rules and regulations within fifteen days from the effectivity of this Act.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause*. All laws, decrees, resolutions, orders, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity*. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,