

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

19th Congress
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 11500



Introduced by **HONORABLE PETER B. MIGUEL**

**AN ACT FURTHER INCREASING THE SOCIAL PENSION OF INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11916**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

We recognize the challenges faced by the elderly and understand the importance of providing timely assistance to alleviate their hardships. The prompt enactment of laws which would further increase their monthly pension allows us to make a tangible difference in their lives. This is in line with the directive of President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. to continuously look after the welfare of our senior citizens.

The Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens (SPISC) Program of DSWD aims to improve the well-being of qualifying indigent senior citizens by supplementing their daily living and medical requirements, alleviating hunger, and protecting them from deprivation, neglect, or abuse.

As mandated by Republic Act No. 11916, beneficiaries of the SPISC Program are to receive an enhanced monthly stipend of ₱1,000. Enacted in July 2022, the law doubles the monthly pension for senior citizens from ₱500 to ₱1,000. With the passage of this bill, it aims to double the monthly pension from ₱1,000 to ₱2,000.

In pursuit of a Bagong Pilipinas, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. emphasized the commitment to ensure that no Filipino, especially the most vulnerable sectors, is left behind. The SPISC Program is among the many initiatives implemented to achieve the current administration's vision for a better Philippines.



PETER B. MIGUEL

Representative, 2nd District South Cotabato

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

Section 1. *Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:*

"Section 2. *Definition of Terms. — For purposes of this Act, these terms are defined as follows:*

(a) x x x;

x x x;

(h) x x x;

(i) Pension Provider refers to any government office or agency, or any private entity which provides pensions to entitled recipients on the basis of contributions, gratuity, or as mandated by any governing law or issuance, including the Social Security System (SSS), the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), and the Pension and Gratuity Management Center (PGMC); and

(j) Social Pension refers to the monetary grant from the government to support the daily subsistence and medical needs of senior citizens which shall not be less than Two thousand pesos (P2,000.00) per month."

Section 2. *Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:*

"Section 5. *Government Assistance. — The government shall provide the following:*

x x x;

(h) Additional Government Assistance

(1) Mandatory Social Pension

Indigent senior citizens shall be entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to not less than Two thousand pesos (P2,000.00) 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 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.

(2)

x x x

(3) Social Safety Nets

Social safety assistance intended to cushion the effects of economic shocks, disasters and calamities shall be available for senior citizens. The social safety assistance which shall include food, medicines, and financial assistance for domicile repair, shall be sourced from the disaster/calamity funds of LGUs where the senior citizens reside, subject to the guidelines to be issued by the National Commission of Senior Citizens (NCSC)."

Section 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — *Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NCSC shall, in consultation with the DSWD, DBM and other concerned government agencies, as well as nongovernment organizations and people's organizations of senior citizens duly accredited by the DSWD, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.*

Section 8. Appropriations. — *The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DSWD. Thereafter, such amount necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.*

Section 9. Separability Clause. — *If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.*

Section 10. Repealing Clause. — *All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, and rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.*

Section 11. Effectivity. — *This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.*

APPROVED.