



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 155



Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE GERALD CLOYD ALEXIS V. GALANG**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Aging populations are emerging as a significant economic challenge in the Philippines and globally, affecting both individuals and society as a whole. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority projections, the number of Filipinos aged 60 and above is projected to triple over the next three decades, from 7.6 million in 2015 to 22.6 million by 2045. This demographic shift intensifies the urgency of ensuring stable income sources for older adults, particularly in tackling poverty and inequality. Social protection programs for seniors are widely recognized as effective tools for reducing poverty rates and narrowing economic disparities. Pension systems, in particular, foster inclusive growth by distributing the financial burden of an aging population across broader society.

The current social pension program for indigent senior citizens partially alleviates daily hardships by supplementing expenses for food and healthcare. However, its effectiveness is constrained by two key limitations: the exclusion of many vulnerable elderly individuals from eligibility criteria and the inadequacy of the monthly stipend, which remains fixed at PHP 500. Without reforms to expand coverage and increase benefits, the program risks falling short of addressing the evolving needs of a rapidly aging population.

Aging brings numerous challenges, both physical and economic, which become far more severe in societies where poverty is widespread. These struggles not only compound one another but are also deeply intensified by systemic inequality. A pension system for seniors could address this crisis by ensuring financial stability, covering essentials like food and healthcare, and alleviating pressure on low-income families. Beyond immediate relief, such a policy would act as a mechanism to redistribute economic progress more equitably across generations. Honoring the sacrifices and contributions of our elders demands that younger generations guarantee them a life of dignity in old age.

Given the critical need to address the challenges facing our aging population, there is an urgent call for the immediate passage of this bill.


GERALD GALANG
2nd Legislative District, City of Valenzuela



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Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE GERALD CLOYD ALEXIS V. GALANG**

AN ACT
GRANTING SOCIAL PENSION TO ALL SENIOR CITIZENS AGED 65 YEARS
OLD AND ABOVE, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.
7432, AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “Social Pension of Senior Citizens Act.”

SEC. 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No. 9257, further amended by Republic Act. 9994, otherwise known as the “Expanded Senior Citizen Act of 2010”, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 2. Definition of Terms. – For this Act, these terms are defined as follows:

xxx

xxx

xxx

“(i) **SOCIAL PENSION REFERS TO THE MONTHLY STIPEND MONETARY GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO AUGMENT THE DAILY SUBSISTENCE AND OTHER MEDICAL NEEDS OF SENIOR CITIZENS, WHICH SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND PESOS (Php 1000.00) PER MONTH.**

SEC. 3. Section 5 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

xxx

xxx

xxx

“(h) Additional Government Assistance

“(1) Social Pension

“[Indigent] **ALL senior citizens 65 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A MONTHLY SOCIAL PENSION OF AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND PESOS (Php 1,000.00)** to augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens.

INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS AGED SIXTY (60) YEARS OLD TO SIXTY-FOUR (64) YEARS OLD SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A MONTHLY

SOCIAL PENSION OF AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND PESOS (PHP1,000.00)
to augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens.

The amount of social pension **SHALL BE REVIEWED AND**, when necessary, **ADJUSTED OR INCREASED BY THE DSWD** every two years after the effectivity of this act, in consultation with the **DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM) AND OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VARIOUS NEEDS OF SENIOR CITIZENS, THE NATIONAL INFLATION RATE, AND OTHER RELEVANT ECONOMIC INDICATORS**, as reported and published by the pertinent government agencies or authorities: **PROVIDED, THAT THE SOCIAL PENSION SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN THE AMOUNT INITIALLY SPECIFIED IN THIS ACT.**

FIVE YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, ALL SENIOR CITIZENS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A MONTHLY SOCIAL PENSION AT THE PREVAILING RATE, WHICH SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND PESOS(PHP1,000.00) to augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens.

xxx

xxx

xxx

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions, which are not affected, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, or rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,