

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



TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 566

Introduced by **Representative Jaime R. Fresnedi**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to increase the amount of the basic monthly pension of the surviving spouse as covered by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) by amending Presidential Decree No. 1146.

With the death of a member, survivorship benefits ensure that their qualified loved ones still receive 50% of their pension. However, in recent years, the Philippines has experienced the effects of inflation. This inflation has translated into higher costs for basic goods and services, impacting the financial stability of countless households. Surviving spouses and their dependent children, who are already dealing with the emotional toll of losing a loved one, are now being confronted with mounting financial pressures, such as increased expenses for food, housing, education, and healthcare.

The proposed amendment herein would not largely affect the financial viability of the GSIS because the pension is normally based on the maximum life expectancy of a member. In effect, the death of a member will not put a dent on the financial status of the GSIS because the survivorship benefits would just be as if the member is still alive if based on the maximum life expectancy of the member.

This legislation aims to alleviate the financial strain on the families of those surviving pensioner. It acknowledges that the surviving spouses and dependent children often face a harsh reality of financial instability and uncertainty, and it is our duty to provide them with a safety net during these challenging times.

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


JAIME R. FRESNEDI
Representative
Lone District, Muntinlupa City

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AN ACT
INCREASING THE SURVIVORSHIP PENSION OF SPOUSES OF PENSIONERS COVERED BY THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS), FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1416, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997"

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

SECTION 1. Section 21(b) of Presidential Decree No. 1146, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

(b) The survivorship pension shall be paid as follows:

- (1) When the dependent spouse is the only survivor, he/she shall receive [the basic] A survivorship pension **EQUIVALENT TO SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF THE BASIC MONTHLY PENSION** for life or until he/she remarries;
- (2) xxx;
- (3) xxx."

SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected there shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All Acts, Presidential Decrees, Executive Orders and Administrative Orders, Rules and Regulations and other such issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,