

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

House Bill No. **2691**



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**Introduced by Representative Timothy Joseph Cayton**

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**“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION TO ALL SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines mandates the State to promote a just and humane society, uphold the dignity of every human person, and guarantee full respect for human rights. It also declares that the family has the duty to care for its elderly members, but the State may also do so through just programs of social security<sup>1</sup>.

As of 2020, there were more than **9.2 million senior citizens** in the Philippines, a number that continues to rise each year.<sup>2</sup> Many of them are not covered by formal pension schemes such as the Social Security System (SSS) or Government Service Insurance System (GSIS). The absence of a guaranteed safety net puts many of our senior citizens at risk of poverty, food insecurity, and inability to afford medicines and daily living expenses.

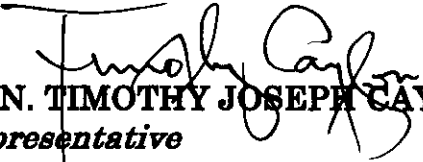
The social pension covered under Republic Act No. 9994 is limited to **indigent senior citizens**. Hence, this bill seeks to institutionalize a **universal social pension** for **all Filipino senior citizens**, regardless of income level or status. Providing a monthly pension of at least ₱1,500.00 to support the daily subsistence and medical needs of senior citizens would promote dignity, equity, and empowerment among our elderly population.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 4, Article XV of the Philippine Constitution

<sup>2</sup> Philippine Statistics Authority. *2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH): Age and Sex Distribution in the Philippines*. (2022).

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

  
**HON. TIMOTHY JOSEPH CAYTON**  
***Representative***  
Lone District, Nueva Vizcaya

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

House Bill No. 2691

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**Introduced by Representative Timothy Joseph Cayton**

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**“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION TO ALL SENIOR  
CITIZENS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”**

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

**SECTION 1. *Title.*** –This Act shall be known and cited as the “*The Universal  
Social Pension for Senior Citizens Act.*”

**SEC. 2.** - Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No. 9257, further amended by Republic Act No. 9994, and as further amended by Republic Act No. 11916, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

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

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“(I) SOCIAL PENSION REFERS TO THE **MONTHLY STIPEND** OR MONETARY GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT THE DAILY SUBSISTENCE AND OTHER MEDICAL NEEDS OF SENIOR CITIZENS WHICH SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND **FIVE HUNDRED** PESOS (PHP 1,500.00) PER MONTH.”

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

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“(h) Additional Government Assistance

“(1) Social Pension

“[Indigent] **ALL** senior citizens shall be entitled to a monthly [stipend] **SOCIAL PENSION** amounting to **AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND five hundred pesos (PHP 1,500.00)** to augment their daily subsistence and other medical needs.

**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.**

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**SEC. 4. Appropriations.** – The mandatory social pension within a period not exceeding two (2) years from the implementation of this Act shall be added to the regular appropriation of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) budget in the General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the regular appropriation for the monthly social pension for senior citizens shall be included in the budget of the National Commission on Senior Citizens (NCSC).

**SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Guidelines.** – The DSWD, in coordination with the NCSC, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within **thirty (30) days** from its effectivity.

**SEC. 6. Separability Clause.** –If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 7. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation,

contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

**SEC. 8. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,