

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3356**



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PM VARGAS

AN ACT
LOWERING THE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS FROM SIXTY (60) YEARS OLD TO FIFTY-FIVE (55) YEARS
OLD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "GOVERNMENT SERVICE
INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Filipino teachers are among the noblest public servants in the country. Their duties and responsibilities to their students and the school administration often go beyond the six hours of daily instruction time. Currently, our public-school teachers retire at age 65 while their counterparts in most ASEAN countries retire at age 60.

In recognition of their sacrifices and dedication in providing quality education, our teachers deserve to be granted certain benefits and retirement options for the many years they have spent serving the nation. Thus, this bill seeks to recognize the important contributions of our public-school teachers and repay their hard work with respect and humane labor considerations by proposing to lower the optional retirement age from today's 60 years old to 50 years old, with the same pension benefits provided by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS).

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


REP. PM VARGAS

Fifth District, Quezon City

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the *"Public School Teachers Retirement Act."*

SECTION 2. Amendatory Provision. – Section 13-A of Republic Act No. 8291, otherwise known as “The Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997”, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 13-A. *Conditions for Entitlement.* – A member who retires from the service shall be entitled to the retirement benefits in paragraph (a) of Section 13 hereof: *Provided, That* **SUCH MEMBER:**

"(1) [he] has rendered at least fifteen (15) years of service;

"(2) [he] is at least sixty (60) years of age at the time of retirement, **OR AT LEAST FIFTY-FIVE (55) YEARS OF AGE IN THE CASE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS;** and

"(3) [he] is not receiving a monthly pension benefit from permanent total disability.”

SECTION 3. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,