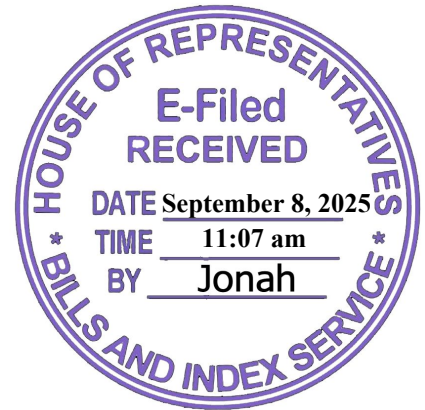


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4398



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The elderly population in the Philippines constitutes a significant and growing demographic that has contributed immensely to the nation's development throughout their lives. Despite their invaluable contributions, many senior citizens, particularly those who were not part of the formal labor sector or those whose pensions are insufficient, face significant economic hardships. These challenges include rising costs of living, healthcare expenses, and the general inability to meet their basic needs, often leading to a life of poverty and dependency in their twilight years.

While existing social protection programs provide some assistance, their coverage is often limited, conditional, or inadequate to address the comprehensive needs of all senior citizens. There remains a substantial number of elderly Filipinos who are left without a stable source of income, making them vulnerable to various socio-economic pressures.

This Bill seeks to establish a universal social pension for all senior citizens, regardless of their previous employment status or existing pension benefits. By providing a regular and sufficient financial stipend, this measure aims to:

1. Ensure economic security by providing a stable and dignified source of income for all senior citizens, enabling them to meet their daily needs and improve their quality of life.
2. Bridge the gap in social protection, ensuring that no senior citizen is left behind, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized.
3. Acknowledge and honor the lifelong contributions of senior citizens to their families and to the nation
4. Directly address poverty among the elderly and reduce the burden on their families.

The implementation of a universal social pension is a crucial step towards building a more inclusive and compassionate society that truly values and cares for its elders. This investment in the well-being of our senior citizens is not merely an expense but an essential social responsibility that will yield long-term benefits for the entire community.

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


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 4398

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

AN ACT
GRANTING UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION TO SENIOR CITIZENS,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS
AMENDED, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION
OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND
SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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 "Universal Social Pension for Senior Citizens Act of 2025."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to uphold the rights of senior citizens to a comfortable and dignified life, free from want and insecurity. Towards this end, the State shall provide a universal social pension to all senior citizens to augment their daily subsistence and medical needs, thereby promoting their health, welfare, and social inclusion.

SEC. 3. *Amending Republic Act No. 7432, as amended.* - Section 5(h)(1) of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No. 9994, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. Government Assistance. – The government shall provide the following:

"(h) Additional Government Assistance

(1) Social Pension. – All senior citizens, regardless of their economic status, shall be entitled to a monthly social pension of ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000.00) to be

reviewed and adjusted periodically by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in consultation with the National Commission of Senior Citizens (NCSC) and other relevant agencies, taking into consideration the prevailing socio-economic conditions and inflation rate.

SEC. 4. *Funding.* - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Department of Social Welfare and Development. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in consultation with the National Commission of Senior Citizens (NCSC), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Finance (DOF), and other relevant government agencies and stakeholders, shall formulate and promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

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

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. *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,