

TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 5068

Introduced by Rep. CARMELO G. LAZATIN, JR.

AN ACT

**MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION
FOR ALL SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING FOR ITS ADJUSTMENT BASED ON
INFLATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines provides that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development, which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers.

Pursuant to this, Republic Act No. 9994, or the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010, was enacted to support the improvement of the well-being of the elderly, recognize their rights, and motivate them to contribute to nation-building. This law also grants privileges to the elderly citizens, such as discounts on medicines, professional fees of attending physicians, medical and dental services, among others.

Moreover, with the enactment of Republic Act No. 11916, which increased the social pension of indigent senior citizens from Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) to One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00), the State aims to provide the elderly with greater means to cope with the daily living and medical needs.

However, despite the implementation of these laws, many elderly are still unable to fully avail themselves of the benefits and privileges provided. The means testing used to determine eligibility for the stipend may not accurately reflect their financial conditions. This situation may also be attributed to the outdated lists of senior citizens, lack of local validation and inadequate funding.

According to the data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) , there were over nine (9) million senior citizens in 2020. As of July 2025, 8.4 million senior citizens are registered in the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys), and 1.2 million have activated their accounts on the eGovPH App.¹

Hence, this proposed legislation seeks to establish a universal social pension to ensure that every elderly Filipino receives financial support, with the stipend to be automatically adjusted based on inflation.

Our elderly citizens are an important part of our community, providing valuable wisdom to every program toward nation-building. Their contributions to our communities during their prime years have helped shape our nation. It is only proper that the State ensures their well-being in their old age.

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


CARMELO G. LAZATIN, JR.

NCSC, DICT Launch Digital National Senior Citizens ID via eGovPH App available at <https://www.ncsc.gov.ph/post/ncsc-dict-launch-digital-national-senior-citizens-id-via-egovph-app#:~:text=According%20to%20the%20Philippine%20Statistics,accounts%20on%20the%20eGovPH%20App.>



Republic of the Philippines

House of Representatives

Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

HOUSE BILL NO. 5068

Introduced by Rep. CARMELO G. LAZATIN, JR.

**AN ACT
MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION
FOR ALL SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING FOR ITS ADJUSTMENT BASED ON
INFLATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

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

3 **SECTION 2.** *Declaration of Policy.*- Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution of
the Philippines provides that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to
health development, which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services
available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the
underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide
free medical care to paupers.

4 To this end, the State shall promote the well-being of its elderly citizens and shall endeavor
5 to establish a universal social pension mechanism to ensure that every elderly receives financial
6 support to help them cope with their daily living and medical needs.

7 **SECTION 3.** *Definition of Terms.*- For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall
8 mean:

- 1 a. *Senior Citizen* refers to any Filipino Citizen who is sixty (60) years of age or older,
2 whether residing in the Philippines or abroad at the time of application;
3
4 b. *Social Pension* refers to a regular monthly stipend provided by the government to
5 elderly beneficiaries under this Act;
6
7 c. *Inflation* refers to the annual change in the Consumer Price Index as determined by
8 the Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA).

9 **SECTION 4. *Universal Social Pension.*** – All Filipino senior citizens shall be entitled to
10 receive a monthly social pension of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00), regardless of income, civil
11 status, health condition, or residency.

12 **SECTION 5. *Annual Indexation of Social Pension.*** – The amount of the social pension
13 shall be automatically adjusted based on the Consumer Price Index as issued by the PSA.
14 The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall determine the adjusted amount of
15 monthly social pension, which shall be released every January of the following year.

16 **SECTION 6. *Implementing Agency.***– The Department of Social Welfare and Development
17 (DSWD) in coordination with the National Commission of Senior Citizens (NCSC) shall be
18 responsible for implementing the provisions of this Act. It shall establish and maintain a database
19 of all beneficiaries and shall coordinate with the Department of the Interior and Local Government
20 (DILG), the Land Bank of the Philippines, and accredited financial service providers for the payout
21 mechanisms.

22 **SECTION 7. *Appropriations.*** – The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act
23 shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act under the DSWD or NCSC as may be
24 applicable.

25 **SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within ninety (90) days from the
26 effectivity of this Act, the DSWD, in coordination with the NCSC, DBM, PSA, and relevant
27 stakeholders, shall develop and promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations

28 **SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.*** - If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid
29 or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.
30

31 **SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.***– All laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders,
32 administrative orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this
33 Act are hereby amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.
34

35 **SECTION 11. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
36 in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
37

38 Approved,