

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5182



Introduced by Rep. Rudy S. Caoagdan, DPA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to increase the old age pension of Surviving Spouses of Veterans from the current Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00) to Ten Thousand Pesos (₱10,000.00), or a one hundred percent (100%) increase.

It was in 1994 or more than 30 years has passed since Republic Act No. 6948 was amended by Republic Act No. 7696, which mandated the increase of old age pension from ₱1,000.00 to ₱5,000.00.

In 2018, Republic Act No. 11164 increased the old age pension of veterans of World War II and Korean and Vietnam wars who are not receiving pension from the Armed forces of the Philippines (AFP), from Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00) to Twenty Thousand Pesos (₱20,000.00). However, the entitlement to the increase in old-age pension is limited to the eligible living senior veterans and does not include the old age pensions of the surviving spouses.

This Bill is in consonance with Section 7, Article XVI of the Constitution which states that *"the State shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits and other forms of assistance to War Veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans. Funds shall be provided therefor and due consideration shall be given them in the disposition of agricultural lands of the public domain and, in appropriate cases, in the utilization of natural resources"*.

Considering the period that passed, the amount of pension has already become inordinately inadequate to support the needs of our aging veterans. Hence, it is about time to increase the old age pension of our post World War II veterans and the surviving spouses of veterans.


REP. RUDY S. CAOAGDAN

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FIVE THOUSAND PESO INCREASE IN OLD AGE
PENSION OF SURVIVING SPOUSES OF SENIOR VETERANS**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to provide
2 immediate and adequate care, benefits and other forms of assistance to the war
3 veterans, their surviving spouses and orphans by alleviating their living conditions
4 through policies that provide for a decent and humane condition of living and improved
5 quality of life.
6

7 **SEC. 2. Surviving Spouse.** – The lawful widow or widower of the deceased
8 veteran, or innocent spouse if he or she was legally separated by final judicial decree
9 from the deceased.
10

11 **SEC. 3. Increase in Old Age Pension of Surviving Spouses of Senior**
12 **Veterans.** - The old age pension of surviving spouses of senior veterans of World War
13 II, Korean and Vietnam Veterans who did not receive pensions from the Armed Forces
14 of the Philippines (AFP), shall be increased by Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00),
15 unless she/he remarries, dies or is receiving a similar pension for the same
16 consideration from other Philippine Government funds.
17

18 **SEC. 4. Funding.** - In order to augment the amount needed to fund the increase
19 in the old-age pension as provided in this Act, the amount necessary for the initial
20 implementation shall be charged against the current year's available appropriation in the
21 Pension Gratuity Fund under the General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sums as
22 may be needed for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the
23 annual General Appropriations Act.
24

25 **SEC. 5. Repealing Clause.** - All existing laws or parts thereof inconsistent with
26 the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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2 **SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
3 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general
4 circulation.
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6 Approved,