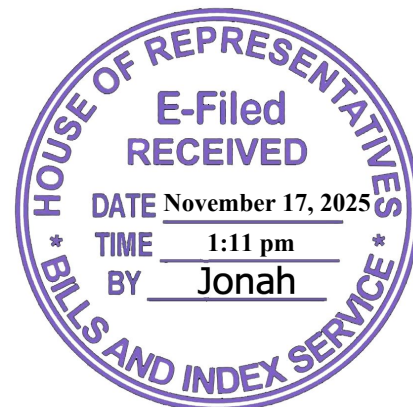


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6041**



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**Introduced by:**

**HON. CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill proposes to lower the optional retirement age for government workers from sixty (60) to fifty-six (56) years, provided they have rendered at least fifteen (15) years of service. The measure responds to longstanding calls from public servants, especially teachers, for greater flexibility in retirement, recognizing that many are affected by age-related health issues and work-related stress.

Contrary to concerns about the sustainability of the GSIS fund, data show that most government employees retire at an average age of 62, as many choose to continue working for higher benefits. Lowering the optional retirement age will not force early retirement but will simply provide an option for those who need it most.

Allowing earlier retirement will also benefit government service by opening opportunities for younger, skilled, and tech-savvy professionals, addressing youth unemployment and enhancing public sector efficiency.

To ensure a smooth transition, the bill provides for a two-year adjustment period for the GSIS. We urge the support of our colleagues in responding to the needs of our dedicated public servants.

In view of the foregoing, **ug sa ngalan sa SERBISYONG TINUORAY**, the undersigned respectfully requests the immediate passage of this measure.

  
**CHRISTOPHERSON "COCO" M. YAP**  
Representative, Second District of Southern Leyte

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**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
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**HOUSE BILL NO. 6041**

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**Introduced by:**

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**AN ACT**

**LOWERING THE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS FROM SIXTY (60) YEARS TO FIFTY-SIX (56) YEARS, AMENDING SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997,” AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. Amendment of Section 13-A of Republic Act No. 8291.** — 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* [he] **THE MEMBER:**

- (1) has rendered at least fifteen (15) years of service;
- (2) is at least **[sixty(60)] FIFTY-SIX (56)** years of age at the time of retirement; and
- (3) is not receiving a monthly pension benefit from permanent total disability;”

**SECTION 2. Transition Period.** — During the first two (2) years after the effectivity of this Act:

- (a) Only members certified by the Department of Health, as diagnosed with or suffering from LIFE-THREATENING COMORBIDITIES OR SEVERE MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS, AS DEFINED BY THE DOH, MAY AVAIL OF OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AT FIFTY-SIX (56) YEARS UNDER SECTION 13-A, AS AMENDED; and

- (b) All other members shall continue to qualify for optional retirement only upon attaining sixty (60) years of age pursuant to Section 13-A prior to its amendment by this Act.

The full implementation of Section 13-A, as amended herein, allowing optional retirement at fifty-six (56) years for all qualified members, shall commence on the third (3rd) year from the effectivity of this Act.

**SECTION 3. Implementing Rules.** — Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), in coordination with the DOH and the Civil Service Commission (CSC), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the transition under Section 2, including standards and procedures for medical certification.

**SECTION 4. Repealing Clause.** — All laws, executive orders, letters of instruction, rules and regulations or provisions thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5. 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.

**SECTION 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*