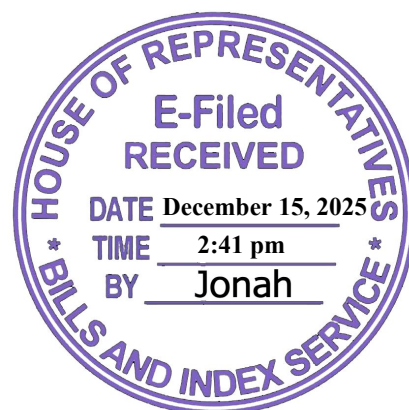


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6849



Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE RICARDO S. CRUZ, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) is the social insurance program for government employees in the Philippines, providing its members with retirement, life insurance, and other social security benefits. Under existing laws, GSIS members are entitled to retirement benefits upon meeting the required qualifications, including the completion of a minimum number of years of service and contributions.

However, a number of government workers classified under non-career service are unable to complete the required minimum fifteen (15) years of GSIS membership. This may be due to the nature of their appointments, the expiration or termination of their service, or their inability to subsequently secure employment in another government position that would allow them to continue their GSIS contributions.

This proposed measure seeks to address this gap by providing non-career service members with the option to complete the required fifteen (15) years of GSIS membership through voluntary contributions. By allowing continued participation in the GSIS even after separation from government service, the measure ensures that affected individuals are given a fair opportunity to qualify for retirement benefits.

For these reasons, the swift passage of the foregoing measure is earnestly sought.


RICARDO S. CRUZ JR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **6849**

Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE RICARDO S. CRUZ, JR.**

**AN ACT PROVIDING AN OPTION FOR QUALIFIED MEMBERS IN THE
NONCAREER SERVICE TO PAY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO THE
GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE
GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997”**

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

SECTION 1. Section 13 (b) of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8291, otherwise known as “The Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997” is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 13. Retirement Benefits. –

x x x

(b) Unless the service is extended by appropriate authorities, retirement shall be compulsory for an employee at sixty-five (65) years of age, with at least fifteen (15) years of service: *Provided*, That [if he] **A MEMBER WHO** has less than fifteen (15) years of service [, he] may be allowed to continue in the service in accordance with existing civil service rules and regulations[.]: **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT A MEMBER IN THE NON-CAREER SERVICE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 9, CHAPTER 2, SUBTITLE A, TITLE I, BOOK V, OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987,” MAY AVAIL OF THE RETIREMENT AND OTHER APPLICABLE BENEFITS UNDER THIS ACT, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 13-B HEREIN.”**

SEC. 2. Section 13-A of RA 8291 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 THE 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; and
- (3) [he] is not receiving a monthly pension benefit from permanent total disability.”

SEC. 3. A new Section 13-B is hereby inserted to RA 8291, to read as follows:

“SEC. 13-B. OPTION FOR MEMBERS IN THE NON-CAREER SERVICE. – A MEMBER IN THE NON-CAREER SERVICE WHO HAS NOT CONTRIBUTED AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) YEARS OF PREMIUM SHALL BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO PAY THE FULL PREMIUMS, REPRESENTING THE PERSONAL AND AGENCY SHARE, UNTIL SUCH MEMBER SHALL HAVE COMPLETED THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF YEARS TO QUALIFY FOR RETIREMENT BENEFIT: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE GSIS SHALL ALLOW A MEMBER TO PAY THE PREMIUM FOR A LOWER SALARY GRADE, UNDER REASONABLE TERMS AND CONDITIONS, TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY AND AFFORDABILITY ON THE PART OF THE MEMBER.*”

SEC. 4. Nothing herein shall diminish the retirement and separation benefits already enjoyed under the existing laws at the time of retirement.

SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the GSIS shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 6. If any provision of this Act or part hereof is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. All laws, executive and administrative orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,