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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10588



INTRODUCED BY REP. MARCELINO "MARCY" R. TEODORO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Past crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic disruptions, have underscored the need for stronger social protection mechanisms for vulnerable sectors of society. Among those most affected are senior citizens, many of whom rely solely on fixed pensions or limited sources of income that are often insufficient to meet their daily subsistence, healthcare, and other essential needs.

The continuing rise in the prices of basic commodities, medicines, utilities, and healthcare services has further diminished the purchasing power of senior citizens, particularly indigent elderly Filipinos who have no regular source of support. Strengthening the government social pension program is therefore necessary to ensure that senior citizens are afforded a life of dignity, security, and protection.

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

MARCELINO "MARCY" R. TEODORO

Representative
1st District, Marikina City

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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 10588

INTRODUCED BY REP. MARCELINO "MARCY" R. TEODORO

AN ACT
INCREASING THE SOCIAL PENSION OF INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SENIOR
CITIZENS ACT

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. Definition of terms. - For purposes of this Act, these terms are defined as follows:

"(a) x x x; x x x;

"(h) x x x; and

"I) PENSION PROVIDER REFERS TO ANY GOVERNMENT OFFICE OR AGENCY, OR ANY PRIVATE ENTITY WHICH PROVIDES PENSIONS TO ENTITLED RECIPIENTS BASED ON CONTRIBUTIONS, GRATUITY, OR AS MANDATED BY ANY GOVERNING LAW OR ISSUANCE, INCLUDING THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS), THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS), AND THE PENSION AND GRATUITY MANAGEMENT CENTER (PGMC); "J) SOCIAL PENSION REFERS TO THE MONETARY GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT THE DAILY SUBSISTENCE AND MEDICAL NEEDS OF SENIOR CITIZENS WHICH SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 1,000.00) PER MONTH."

SEC. 2. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

1 "SEC. 5. Government Assistance. - The government shall provide the
2 following:
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5 "(a) Employment "xxx. "Private entities that will employ senior citizens as
6 employees, upon the effectivity of this Act, shall be entitled to an additional
7 deduction from their gross income, equivalent to fifteen percent (15%) of the total
8 amount paid as salaries and wages to senior citizens, subject to the provision of
9 Section 34 of the NIRC, as amended: Provided, however, That such employment
10 shall continue for a period of at least six (6) months: Provided, further, That the
11 annual income of the senior citizen does not exceed the latest poverty threshold as
12 [determined] **PUBLISHED** by the [National Statistical Coordination Board
13 (NSCB) of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)]
14 **PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA)** for that year. X X X
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16 "(h) Additional Government Assistance
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18 "(1) **MANDATORY Social Pension** "Indigent senior citizens shall
19 be entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to [Five hundred] **NOT LESS**
20 **THAN ONE THOUSAND pesos [(Php500)] (Php1,000.00)** to augment the
21 daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens [subject to a
22 review every two (2) years by Congress, in consultation with the DSWD].
23 **THE DSWD SHALL, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE**
24 **DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM), IN**
25 **CONSULTATION WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS, REVIEW**
26 **AND, WHEN NECESSARY, ADJUST THE AMOUNT OF SOCIAL**
27 **PENSION EVERY TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY**
28 **OF THIS ACT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PRESENT**
29 **CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AS PUBLISHED BY THE PSA AND**
30 **RELEVANT ECONOMIC INDICATORS, AS REPORTED AND**
31 **PUBLISHED BY PERTINENT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND**
32 **AUTHORITIES. THE IMPLEMENTATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND**
33 **MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIAL PENSION SHALL BE**
34 **TRANSFERRED FROM THE DSWD TO THE NATIONAL**
35 **COMMISSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS (NCSC) WITHIN A**
36 **PERIOD NOT EXCEEDING THREE (3) YEARS FROM THE**
37 **EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT.**
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39 "(2) xxx
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41 "(3) **Social Safety Nets** "Social safety assistance intended to cushion
42 the effects of economic shocks, disasters, and calamities shall be available
43 for senior citizens. The social safety assistance which shall include[, but not
44 limited to] food, medicines, and financial assistance for domicile repair,
45 shall be sourced from the disaster/calamity funds of LGUs where the senior

citizens reside, subject to the guidelines to be issued by the [DSWD]
NCSC."

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10 **SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of
11 this Act, the NCSC shall, in consultation with DSWD, DBM and other concerned government
12 agencies, as well as nongovernmental organizations and people's organizations of senior citizens
13 duly accredited by the DSWD, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
14 implementation of this Act.

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18 **SEC. 4. *Appropriations.*** - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall
19 be charged against the current appropriations of the DSWD. Thereafter, such amount necessary
20 for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
21 Appropriations Act.

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24 **SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, and rules and regulations or parts
thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official
Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.