

1 Republic of the Philippines
2 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
3 Batasan Hills, Quezon City
4

5
6 **TWENTIETH CONGRESS**
7 Second Regular Session
8
9

10 **HOUSE BILL No. 10770**
11



12 -----
13 Introduced by
14 **ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO,**
15 **Gabriela Women's Party Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO,**
16 **and KABATAAN Party-List Rep. RENEE LOUISE M. CO**
17 -----

18
19 **AN ACT**
20 **INCREASING THE MONTHLY SOCIAL PENSION OF INDIGENT SENIOR**
21 **CITIZENS TO TWO THOUSAND PESOS, EXPANDING THE COVERAGE**
22 **THEREOF AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR**
23 **THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE**
24 **"EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010," AS AMENDED BY**
25 **REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11916, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**
26

27
28 **EXPLANATORY NOTE**
29

30 The Philippines is experiencing a rapid demographic transition. According to
31 the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), the country now has approximately 9.85
32 million senior citizens, representing nearly one in every eleven Filipinos. This number
33 is expected to increase steadily as life expectancy improves and the population ages.
34

35 The Constitution recognizes older persons as a priority sector deserving special
36 protection. Article XIII, Section 11 mandates the State to give priority to the needs of
37 the elderly, while Article II affirms the State's commitment to social justice and the
38 promotion of a dignified life for all.
39

40 In 2010, Republic Act No. 9994 established the Social Pension Program for
41 indigent senior citizens. In 2022, Republic Act No. 11916 lapsed into law thereby
42 increasing the monthly benefit to ₱1,000. Although this represented an important
43 advance in social protection, the amount is no longer sufficient to meet even the
44 minimum daily needs of elderly Filipinos.
45

1 The Department of Social Welfare and Development currently provides social
2 pensions to more than 4.1 million indigent senior citizens. However, nearly 5.7
3 million senior citizens remain outside the program.

4
5 Among those excluded are millions of retirees receiving very small pensions
6 from the Social Security System (SSS) and the Government Service Insurance System
7 (GSIS). Official SSS data show that the average monthly retirement pension is only
8 about ₱5,000, while many pensioners receive substantially less. Despite living below
9 or near the poverty threshold, these retirees are disqualified from receiving the Social
10 Pension solely because they receive some form of contributory pension.

11
12 This situation creates an inequity whereby an elderly Filipino receiving a
13 ₱2,500 monthly SSS pension is denied social assistance, while another senior citizen
14 without any pension may receive government support. Such distinction no longer
15 reflects the realities of inflation and the rapidly increasing costs of food, medicines,
16 utilities, transportation, and health care.

17
18 Social pension is not a charity. It is a concrete expression of the constitutional
19 duty of the State to uphold social justice and protect the elderly. It likewise gives
20 effect to the Philippines' obligations under the International Covenant on Economic,
21 Social and Cultural Rights, which recognizes the right of every person to social
22 security, including income security during old age.

23
24 This measure therefore seeks to:

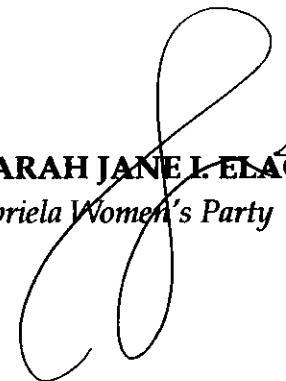
- 25 1. Increase the monthly social pension from ₱1,000 to ₱2,000;
- 26 2. Expand the coverage of social pension to senior citizens without pension
27 and those receiving monthly pensions amounting to ₱10,000 or less;
- 28 3. Provide for the automatic periodic adjustment of the social pension
29 based on inflation, changes in the poverty threshold and the current cost
30 of living; and
- 31 4. Ensure that no elderly Filipino is condemned to poverty merely because
32 of inadequate retirement benefits.

33
34 The proposed measure advances the constitutional principles of social justice,
35 the protection of the elderly, and the State's obligation to uphold the right to social
36 security.

37
38 In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly
39 sought.



REP. ANTONIO L. TINIO
ACT Teachers Party-list



REP. SARAH JANE L. ELAGO
Gabriela Women's Party



REP. RENEE LOUISE M. CO
KABATAAN Party-list

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27 *Be it enacted in the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
28 *Congress assembled:*
29

30
31 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the "Expanded Social Pension
32 for Senior Citizens Act of 2026."
33

34 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
35 promote the dignity, well-being, and economic security of senior citizens by ensuring
36 adequate income support during old age and by expanding social protection to elderly
37 Filipinos whose pensions are insufficient to meet their basic needs. The social pension
38 shall constitute the minimum income guarantee for economically vulnerable senior
39 citizens.
40

41 **SEC. 3.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further amended
42 to read as follows:
43

44 **"SEC. 2. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act, these terms are
45 defined as follows:
46

1 (a) x x x;
2

3 x x x;
4

5 (h) Indigent senior citizen, refers to any elderly [who is frail, sickly or
6 with disability, and] without pension, or **WITH PENSION**, permanent
7 source of income, compensation or financial assistance from his/her
8 relatives to support his/her basic needs **BUT NOT MORE THAN TEN**
9 **THOUSAND PESOS PER MONTH**, as determined by the
10 Department of Social Welfare and development (DSWD) in consultation
11 with the National Coordinating and Monitoring Board.
12

13 (i) Pension Provider refers to any government office or agency, or any
14 private entity which provides pensions to entitled recipients on the basis
15 of contributions, gratuity, or as mandated by any governing law or
16 issuance, including the Social Security System (SSS), the Government
17 Service Insurance System (GSIS), and the Pension and Gratuity
18 Management Center (PGMC); and
19

20 (j) Social Pension refers to the monetary grant from the government to
21 support the daily subsistence and medical needs of senior citizens
22 [which shall not be less than One thousand pesos (P1,000.00) per
23 month]."
24

25 **SEC. 4.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further amended
26 to read as follows:
27

28 **"SEC. 5.** Government Assistance. – The government shall provide the
29 following:
30

31 (a) Employment
32

33 x x x;
34

35 (h) Additional Government Assistance
36

37 (1) Mandatory Social Pension
38

39 Indigent senior citizens shall be entitled to a monthly stipend
40 amounting to not less than [One thousand pesos (P1,000.00)]
41 **TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00)** to augment the daily
42 subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens.
43

44 The DSWD shall, subject to the approval of the Department of
45 Budget and Management (DBM), in consultation with other
46 stakeholders, review and, when necessary, adjust the amount of

1 the social pension every two (2) years after the effectivity of this
2 Act, taking into account the present consumer price index as
3 published by the PSA, **POVERTY THRESHOLD, COST OF**
4 **LIVING** and relevant economic indicators, as reported and
5 published by pertinent government agencies and authorities.

6
7 X X X "

8
9 **SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within thirty (30) days from the
10 effectivity of this Act, the NCSC shall, in consultation with the DSWD, DBM and
11 other concerned government agencies, as well as nongovernment organizations and
12 people's organizations of senior citizens duly accredited by the DSWD, promulgate
13 the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

14
15 **SEC. 6. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this
16 Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DSWD. Thereafter, such
17 amount necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in
18 the annual General Appropriations Act.

19
20 **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act shall be held
21 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in
22 full force and effect.

23
24 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, and rules and
25 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
26 repealed or modified accordingly.

27
28 **SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
29 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

30
31
32 *Approved,*