



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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 11257**



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**Introduced by Rep. ROBERT NAZAL**

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE  
OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS PENSION FUND TO PROVIDE  
PENSION TO OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The constitutional foundation is clear: the State affirms labor as a primary social and economic force and shall protect workers and promote their welfare. A permanent OFW pension responds to a measurable need in a sector that sustains national income and household consumption. Official statistics show the scale and persistence of overseas employment: the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) estimates 2.16 million OFWs worked abroad from April to September 2023, up 9.8 percent from 2022. This is not an abstract constituency but a large, continuing labor cohort whose earnings drive remittance flows and anchor macroeconomic stability.

Remittances remain a pillar of external accounts. The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reports bank-coursed cash remittances reached US\$34.49 billion in 2024, three percent higher than 2023, with monthly inflows approaching US\$3.0 billion by August 2025. The reliability of these inflows is precisely why social protection for the workers who generate them merits statutory support.

Institutional readiness also exists. The Department of Migrant Workers (DMW), created under Republic Act No. 11641, is mandated to protect OFWs throughout the migration cycle, including reintegration. Assigning the DMW to design, administer, and regulate the OFW pension mechanism aligns with its legal mandate and consolidates accountability in a single implementing agency with sector expertise, existing field networks, and regulatory reach.

The policy substance of this measure is straightforward and implementable. First, it establishes an OFW Pension Fund and a DMW-administered pension plan that guarantees not less than ₱5,000 per month to eligible retirees, separate from SSS or GSIS benefits, thereby avoiding overlap and preserving the integrity of existing social insurance systems. Second, it defines clear eligibility grounded in verifiable employment history and registration records, minimizing administrative discretion and enabling credible targeting. Third, it mandates inter-agency coordination among DMW, DOF, OWWA, POEA's successor offices, and DFA to ensure sound fund governance, accurate data matching, and international servicing through posts and welfare offices. These features mirror institutional arrangements already used for OFW services and can be implemented with existing registries and remittance data, reducing transaction costs and leakage risk.

The economic and social rationale is compelling:

*One*, the OFW population skews toward occupations with physical strain and irregular income continuity; a predictable pension offsets late-life income volatility and reduces old-age poverty risk in households historically sustained by remittances.

*Two*, remittance-dependent localities benefit when returning workers have stable purchasing power, supporting local enterprise and mitigating negative demand shocks.

*Three*, the program codifies the State's recognition of a group whose foreign earnings cushion the current account and stabilize consumption during domestic downturns, strengthening social cohesion and trust in public institutions.

Each of these impacts is anchored in the documented size of the OFW workforce and the volume and stability of remittance inflows cited above.

This bill is a counterpart measure to Senate Bill No. 252, "OFW Pension Act of 2025," filed by Sen. Erwin Tulfo, which seeks to establish a dedicated pension fund for Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) to provide a minimum monthly pension upon retirement.

In view of the magnitude of the sector, the proven role of remittances in the economy, and the DMW's statutory mandate to protect and reintegrate OFWs, the immediate passage of this counterpart measure is respectfully sought.



**ROBERT NAZAL**  
Representative

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
2nd Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 11257**

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**Introduced by Rep. ROBERT NAZAL**

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE  
OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS PENSION FUND TO PROVIDE  
PENSION TO OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**Section 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the “Overseas Filipino Workers Pension Act of 2026.”

**Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the welfare of overseas Filipino workers. Towards this end, the State shall accord due recognition to overseas Filipino workers’ contribution to the country’s development by providing them with pension benefits to assist them with their basic necessities when they reach the age of retirement.

**Sec. 3. Definition of Terms.** - As used in this Act, Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) shall refer to a person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a state of which he or she is not a citizen or on board a vessel navigating the foreign seas other than a government ship used for military or non commercial purposes or on an installation located offshore or on the high seas, including but not limited to those who are engaged in manual, skilled, or technical occupations requiring physical labor, specialized training, or vocational skills.

**Sec. 4. Establishment of the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) Pension Fund.**  
- There is hereby established an OFW Pension Fund to provide pension benefits to overseas Filipino workers, especially those engaged in manual, skilled, or technical occupations that require physical labor, specialized training, or vocational skills.

**Sec. 5. Eligibility.** - The benefits under this Act shall apply to an OFW who:  
a) Is at least sixty (60) years of age upon retirement with an accumulated fifteen (15) years of overseas employment; and  
b) Is registered with the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA).

*Provided,* That the pension under this Act shall be separate and distinct from any benefits or pensions received by OFWs under the Social Security System (SSS) or Government Service Insurance System (GSIS).

**Sec. 6. Overseas Filipino Workers Pension (OFW Pension).** - All eligible Overseas Filipino Workers shall be entitled to a monthly pension of not less than Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00) upon retirement, subject to the pension plan to be established by the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW).

**Sec. 7. Role of the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW).** - The DMW shall be the lead implementing agency and administrator of this Act. In addition to its existing functions, it shall:  
a) Establish a pension plan for OFWs;  
b) Manage the OFW Pension Fund to ensure sustainability;  
c) Determine eligibility criteria in coordination with relevant government agencies; and  
d) Perform other duties necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

**Sec. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).** - Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the DMW, in consultation with the Department of Finance (DOF), the POEA, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), and non-government organizations advocating for OFW rights, shall formulate the IRR necessary for its proper implementation.

**Sec. 9. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual appropriations of the Department of Migrant Workers.

**Sec. 10. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

**Sec. 11. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Sec. 12. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.  
Approved.

*Approved.*