

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**Seventeenth Congress**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1853

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
<b>RECEIVED</b>	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

**Introduced by Honorable Mark O. Go**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Section 8, Article XVI (*General Provisions*) of the 1987 Constitution states:

*“SEC. 8. The State shall, from time to time, review to upgrade the pensions and other benefits due to retirees of both the government and the private sectors.”*

This bill seeks to increase the benefits of pensioners under the Social Security System (SSS) by implementing a P2,000.00 hike in their monthly pension. The said increase must be given in four equal installments within a period of four years from the effectivity of the proposed measure.

Republic Act (RA) No. 8282, otherwise known as the “Social Security Act of 1997” provides a monthly pension of P1,200.00 for members with at least ten (10) credited years of service and P2,400.00 for those with twenty (20) credited years. Since the enactment of RA 8282 in 1997, the SSS pensioners have not received any significant pension hike that will augment the meager amount of monthly pension for their food sustenance and maintenance medicines. Thus, several legislative measures were introduced to grant an increase in the monthly pension of SSS pensioners and retirees.

During the Sixteenth Congress, House Bill No. 5842 was introduced to substitute House Bill No. 3851, filed by Representatives Neri J. Colmenares and Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, mandating an across-the-board increase of P2,000.00 in the monthly pension under the SSS. The proposed bill was filed to help the private sector retirees cope with the high cost of living expenses against an inadequate financial source. Its objective was to protect the members, especially the senior citizens against the hazards of disability, sickness, death and other contingencies resulting in loss of income or financial burden.

However, the possibility of providing such relief to the pensioners last Congress was put to halt when House Bill No. 5482 was vetoed by the President. It was rationalized that the abrupt huge increase in the pension would severely

deplete the resources of the SSS should there be no concurrent hike in the contribution of SSS members.

Thus, in order to redeem the initiative to raise the pension, this proposed measure is re-filed with the caveat that the P2,000.00 increase has to be given in four equal installments and has to be completely received within four years from the effectivity of the law.

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



**MARK O. GO**

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**AN ACT**  
**INCREASING THE MINIMUM MONTHLY PENSION UNDER THE**  
**SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE**  
**SECTION 12 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE**  
**KNOWN AS THE “SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM ACT OF 1997”**

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

SECTION 1. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 1161, as amended by Republic Act No. 8282, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 12. *Monthly Pension.* – a) The monthly pension shall be the highest of the following amounts:

“(1) The sum of the following:

“(i) Three hundred pesos (P300); plus

“(ii) Twenty percent (20%) of the average monthly salary credit; plus

“(iii) Two percent (2%) of the average monthly salary credit for each credited year of service in excess of ten (10) years; or

“(2) Forty percent (40%) of the average monthly salary credit; or

“(3) One thousand pesos (P1,000): *Provided*, That monthly pension shall in no case be paid for an aggregate amount of less than sixty (60) months.

“(b) Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the minimum MONTHLY pension shall be [One] THREE thousand two hundred pesos [(P1,200)] (P3,200.00) for members with at least ten (10)

credited years of service and [Two] FOUR thousand four hundred pesos [(P2,400)] (P4,400.00) for those with twenty (20) credited years of service[.] TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN FOUR (4) TRANCHES AS FOLLOWS:

	<b>MEMBERS WITH AT LEAST TEN (10) CREDITED YEARS OF SERVICE</b>	<b>MEMBERS WITH TWENTY (20) CREDITED YEARS OF SERVICE</b>
FIRST YEAR	$P1,200 + 500 = 1,700.00$	$P2,400 + 500 = 2,900.00$
SECOND YEAR	$1,700 + 500 = 2,200.00$	$2,900 + 500 = 3,400.00$
THIRD YEAR	$2,200 + 500 = 2,700.00$	$3,400 + 500 = 3,900.00$
FOURTH YEAR	$2,700 + 500 = 3,200.00$	$3,900 + 500 = 4,400.00$

SEC. 2. Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,