

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 3640

Introduced by
Honorable **Cristal L. Bagatsing**

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS,
FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE R.A. NO. 7432 AS AMENDED BY R.A. NO.
9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill is an amendment to R.A. 7432, as amended by R.A. 9994, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010".

According to "Philippine Statistics Authority: the Age and Sex Structure of the Philippine Population", in 2010, senior citizens were made up of 6.8% of the 92.1 million population, higher than 6% recorded in 2000. This is projected to increase 5.7% or 11.5% in 2030. (Ageing and Health, Philippines).

R.A. 9994 was enacted into law by providing P500 to indigent senior citizens to augment their daily subsistence and other medical needs. Obviously, the benefit was really inadequate and was not indexed to inflation. With rises in prices over the last 5 years, the real value of the social pension benefit has depreciated so much.

We all knew, that income insecurity in old age is one of the major issues faced by our senior citizens. They rely on the assistance from their children or maybe from SSS or GSIS. However, these sources are not enough. Therefore, amending the monthly stipend amounting from Php500 to at least Php1,500 to augment their daily subsistence and other medical needs, hence, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


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ACT OF 2010”

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

Section 1. Number (1), Paragraph (H), Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 5. *Government Assistance*. – The government shall provide the following:

“(a) Employment

x x x

“(h) Additional Government Assistance

“(1) Social Pension

“[Indigent] **ALL** senior citizens shall be entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to [Five hundred pesos (Php500.00)] **AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP1,500.00)** to augment [the] **THEIR** daily subsistence and other medical needs. [of senior citizens, subject to a review every two (2) years by Congress, in consultation with the DSWD.]

PROVIDED, THAT SENIOR CITIZENS CURRENTLY COVERED BY THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM, PENSION SYSTEM FOR MILITARY VETERANS UNDER R.A. NO. 6948 AND OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM, SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS BENEFIT IN THE FIRST THREE (3) YEARS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.

WHEN NECESSARY, THE DSWD MAY INCREASE OR REVISE THE AMOUNT OF THE SOCIAL PENSION: PROVIDED, THAT THE SOCIAL PENSION SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS.”

Sec. 2. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Sec. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders or rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.