

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS of the)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE

S.B. No. 2490

Introduced by HON. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend certain sections of the Government Service Insurance Act of 1997. The primordial intent of which is to permit the facilitation of retirement of government employees after having rendered twenty (20) years of government service, regardless of the age requirement under the existing Act.

The present age requirement of sixty-five (65) years for a government employee to be qualified for retirement is no longer suited to the present labor and economic demographics of our country. A quick glance at statistical data points to the decrease in life expectancy rate, the steady rise of unemployment rate and rapid population growth. All of these factors should be taken into consideration and modifications should be made to ensure top efficiency in government offices.

Waiving the age requirement for retiring government employees would be a positive step towards balancing the scales towards productivity. These hardworking and loyal government employees are at present pressed to continue working past their prime in order to comply with the age requirement prescribed in the present GSIS Act. This not only bogs down the overall performance of an office, but also prevents the recruitment of other potential employees until the prospective retirees have completed their age requisite.

We owe it to these loyal government employees who have served our country to pass this piece of legislation.

The approval of this measure is earnestly sought


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

SENATE

S.B. No. 2490

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**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE WAIVER OF THE RETIREMENT AGE
REQUIREMENT OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE RENDERED
AT LEAST TWENTY YEARS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE, FURTHER
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1146 AS
AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED GOVERNMENT
SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997**

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

SECTION 1. Section 13-A of Presidential Decree No. 1146 as amended otherwise known as the Revised Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 13. Retirement Benefits

(a) Retirement Benefit shall be:

- (1) the lump sum payment as defined in this Act payable at the time of retirement plus an old age pension benefit equal to the basic monthly pension payable monthly for life, starting upon expiration of the five-year (5) guaranteed period covered by the lump sum; or
- (2) cash payment equivalent to eighteen (18) months of his basic monthly pension plus monthly pension for life payable immediately with no five-year (5) guarantee.

(b) Unless the service is extended by appropriate authorities, retirement shall be compulsory for an employee at least sixty-five (65) years of age with at least fifteen (15) years of service: Provided, That if he has less than fifteen (15) years of service, he may be allowed to continue in the service in accordance with existing civil service rules and regulations.

SEC. 13-A. Conditions for Entitlement - A member who retires from the service shall be entitled to the retirement benefits enumerated in paragraph (a) of Sections 13 hereof Provided, That:

- (1) he has rendered at least fifteen (15) years of service;
- (2) he is at least sixty (60) years of age at the time of retirement; and

(3) he is not receiving a monthly pension benefit from permanent total disability.

PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT IF HE HAS RENDERED AT LEAST TWENTY (20) YEARS OF SERVICE, THE RETIREMENT AGE REQUIREMENT OF THIS ACT SHALL BE WAIVED.

SECTION 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval

Approved,