


13th CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

5 JUN 15 P12:00

SENATE
S. BILL NO. 2056

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitutional provision on Social Justice and Human Rights mandates Congress "to give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities x x x by equitably diffusing wealth and political power of the commor. good" (Article XIII, Section 1). Consistent with this constitutional mandate, it is the duty of Congress to provide for a wage that could sustain the basic standards of living necessary for the health, efficiency and general well -being of the worker and his/her family.

However, the current wages of workers in government service are barely livable, which could be as low as Five Thousand Eighty Two Pesos (Php5,082.00) basic pay. On the other hand, the cost of living for a family of six in the National Capital Region is around Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred Pesos (Php 15,300.00) a month or Five Hundred Ten Pesos (Php 510.00) a day. This is most unfortunate considering that the workers in the public sector are responsible for the daily operations of the National Government. As the amount of work accomplished by the Government rests largely upon them, the misery of the situation becomes even more apparent.

Moreover, the financial repercussions resulting from recent legislative and economic developments have left the poor worker even more impoverished. His purchasing power has not only been substantially diminished but he is even penalized through multiple tax liabilities. Economic realities have caught up with the worker, who understandably is now overcome with a sense of helplessness and hopelessness. Inasmuch as this legislature is obligated to assist in alleviating the country's financial situation, it cannot ignore the plight of the government worker who unfailingly serves the government while contributing to the government's pocket.

In response to the plea of the worker, this bill proposes a Two Thousand Pesos (Php 2,000.00) monthly-across-the-board wage hike to all employees in the public sector. Although this amount would not fully cover the increase in the cost of daily living, it would certainly augment the income of the worker to support the basic needs of his/her family.

In view of the urgency of this measure, passage thereof is earnestly requested.


FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN

13th CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
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S. BILL NO. 2056

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**AN ACT GRANTING A TWO THOUSAND PESO ACROSS THE BOARD
INCREASE IN THE MONTHLY COMPENSATION OF ALL WORKERS IN THE
PUBLIC SECTOR, 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 "Workers' Across the Board Increase Compensation Act of 2005."

Sec. 2. Statement of the Policy. --- It is hereby declared the policy of the State to continuously empower Filipino workers in their continuing struggle to uplift and improve their lives through policies that effectively contribute to greater economic gains, protection of their rights and advancement of their welfare. The State shall, therefore, promote the rights of workers in their just and fair share where their labor and expertise are employed by virtue of a management-labor/employer-employee relation.

Sec. 3. Coverage. --- The two-thousand peso increase in the monthly compensation of all workers in the public sector shall apply to all positions, appointive or elective, on full or part-time basis, now existing or hereafter created in the government, including government-owned and controlled corporations and government financial institutions.

The workers to be granted an increase in compensation are those working in the Executive, the Legislative and the Judicial Branches of government, as well as in Constitutional Commissions, including all, but shall not be limited to, departments, bureaus, offices, boards, commissions, courts, tribunals, councils, authorities, administrations, centers, institutes, state colleges and universities, local government units, the armed forces and police and civilian personnel of the PNP. The term "government-owned or controlled corporations and financial institutions" shall include all corporations and financial institutions owned and controlled by the National Government, whether such corporations and financial institutions perform government or proprietary functions.

Sec. 4. Prohibition. --- The salary adjustment funded herein shall not benefit the President, the Vice-President and the Members of Congress.

Sec. 5. Funding Source. --- The funding sources for the two-thousand pesos increase in the monthly compensation of the government workers employed by

the National Government shall be charged against the General Appropriations Act and from savings generated from the different departments, bureaus, offices and agencies.

For government-owned and controlled corporations, the amount needed to implement the aforesaid increase for their personnel shall come from their respective corporate funds. For local government units, the amount needed for the purpose shall be charged to their respective local funds.

Sec. 6. Separability Clause. --- If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, any other provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 7. Repealing Clause. --- All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 8. Effectivity. --- This Act shall take effect 15 days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation. The Department of Budget and Management shall, within sixty (60) days after its approval, prepare and issue the necessary guidelines to implement the compensation increase.

Approved