

SENATE

S.B. No. 3151

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Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is quite common nowadays that when government workers retire, they could no longer enjoy their benefits because they would either be too old or too sick due to old age. Sadly, government workers aged 55 and above are already suffering from career-related ailments such as hypertension, diabetes, mellitus, heart ailments, rheumatism, alzheimer's, pulmonary diseases and other related illnesses. Thus, most of their retirement benefits would just pay for their medical bills.

The National Statistical Coordination Board defines median age at death as the median of the ages at death occurring in a population during a given year which divides the total number of deaths in a population classified by age into equal halves. It is a proxy for life expectancy that allows for simple trend analysis by sex, race, and cause of death. The calculation of median age at death only requires death data. Trends in median age at death are consistent with trends in life expectancy at birth. According to the National Statistics Office, in the year 2005, the median age at death for Filipinos is 61.9 years old.

This bill recognizes such issues and proposes to lower the mandatory retirement age of government employees from 60 to 55. This way, the retirees can enjoy their retirement and pension benefits while still at a productive age. This bill will also allow them to venture into entrepreneurial businesses at an earlier time while they still have the energy and vigor to give them a reasonable chance of success. They can even work in the private sector for up to 10 years, if they choose to do so.

Immediate passage of this bill is highly needed.



RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.
Senator

14th CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

OFFICE

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997

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

SECTION 1. Section 13-A of Republic Act No. 8291, otherwise known as the Government Service Insurance System Act Of 1997, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“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 Section 13 hereof: *Provided, that:*

- (1) he has rendered at least fifteen years of service;
- (2) he is at least [sixty (60)] **FIFTY FIVE (55)** years of age at the time of retirement; and
- (3) he is not receiving a monthly pension benefit from permanent total disability.”

SECTION 2. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 3. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders or rules and regulations, which may be inconsistent with this Act shall be deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,