

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

'04 JUL -2 A8:41

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. **1285**

Introduced by Senator Biazon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 6948, otherwise known as "An Act Standardizing and Upgrading The Benefits For Military Veterans And Their Dependents" as amended by RA No. 7696, has greatly improved the provision of financial assistance to the veterans since its passage in 1990. While there are still much to be desired in terms of compliance, the government is also hindered, financially speaking, in delivering fully what is demanded by the law.

One reason that stands out among others is the very wide definition given to the term "veterans" in RA No. 6948. In this law, those who rendered military service in the Armed Forces of the Philippines and has been honorably discharged or separated after at least six (6) years total cumulative active service, or sooner separated due to death or disability arising from a wound or injury received, or sickness or disease incurred, in line of duty while in the active service, are considered a veteran and therefore entitled to the benefits stated therein.

This bill seeks to redefine the term "veteran" as embodied in said law by restricting the application thereof to those who rendered military service in the AFP and has been honorably discharged or separated after at least 20 years total cumulative service, instead of the original six (6) year total cumulative active service.

The main reason behind this bill is that the present definition is causing a lot of financial strain to the government coffers as even those who are otherwise young enough to work are already entitled to pension.

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


RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Senator

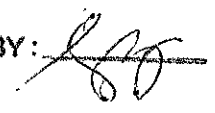
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

04 JUL -2 A8:41

SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

S. No. **1285**



Introduced by Senator Biazon

AN ACT
REDEFINING THE TERM "VETERAN" THEREBY AMENDING FURTHER
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6948 AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 (a), Title I of Republic Act No. 6948 is amended to
read as follows:

"(a) Veteran – any person who IS A WAR VETERAN OR A VETERAN
OF MILITARY CAMPAIGN. A WAR VETERAN IS any person who rendered military
service in the land, sea or air forces of the Philippines during the Revolution against
Spain, the Philippine-American War and the World War II, including Filipino citizens
who served with the Allied Forces in Philippine territory and foreign nationals who
served in the Philippine Forces. A VETERAN OF MILITARY CAMPAIGN IS ANY
PERSON WHO BECAME PART OF THE PHILIPPINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
SENT TO THE KOREAN WAR AND THE PHILIPPINE CITIZENS ACTION GROUP
SENT TO THE VIETNAM WAR; or who rendered military service in the Armed
Forces of the Philippines and has been honorably discharged or separated after at
least TWENTY (20) years total cumulative active service, or sooner separated due
to death or disability arising from a wound or injury received, or sickness or disease
incurred, in line of duty while in the active service;"

SEC. 2. For purposes of the administration of veterans benefits provided for
in Republic Act No. 6948 as amended by Republic Act No. 7696, the Department of
National Defense shall issue the implementing rules and regulations.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, rules, regulations, orders, circulars and
memoranda inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect sixty (60) days upon approval:
Provided, That the Department of National Defense has issued the implementing
rules and regulations for this Act.

Approved,