e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e		SENATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES <i>First Regular Session</i>	}	04 JUN 30 P10:03
	SENATE	RECEIVED BY :
S	5. No. 814	
INTRODUCED B	Y HON. MANUEL 1	B. VILLAR, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to upgrade the retirement benefits now found in various retirement laws for Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Justices and for members of the Constitutional Commissions, by adding survivorship benefits for the surviving spouses of retired Justices of said Courts or retired members of the said Commissions equivalent to one-half or 50% of the deceased a retiree's lifetime pension.

Survivorship pension originally was an integral part of the retirement system for the Armed Forces of the Philippines. But this feature has been included in the revised general retirement system for civilian personnel administered by the GSIS by P.D. 1 146 since 1977.

The enactment of this bill into law would be in consonance with the 1987 Constitution provision on the upgrading of retirement benefits (Art. XVI, section 8). It is also in keeping with the public purpose or rationale of the legislative grant of old age retirement pensions to qualified civil servants: To entice capable men/women of proven probity, integrity and independence to enter and remain in the government service, especially in highly sensitive offices, discharging their duties faithfully and efficiently. Liberal retirement benefits would assure them of retirement with relative security after rendering almost a lifetime of public service, when they have lost their vigor or are already old or incapacitated by illness or other disability.

Accordingly, the immediate approval of this bill is recommended.

MANUEL B. VIILAR, JR.

4		SENATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session	}	O4 JUN 30 PIO :03
	SENATE	
S.	814 No.	

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS TO THE SPOUSE OF A DECEASED RETIRED JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OR COURT OF APPEALS OR OF A DECEASED RETIRED MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. In, case of the death of a retired Justice of the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals or of a retired Member of the Constitutional Commission, then receiving or entitled to receive pursuant to the respective retirement laws for said courts/commissions a lifetime pension, the surviving spouse of such deceased retiree shall receive thereafter as survivorship benefits an amount equivalent to one-half (50%) of the lifetime pension at that time of the retired Justice/Member under the provisions of the applicable retirement, law/s, monthly payment of the survivorship benefits herein provided shall also apply or cover all surviving spouses of the said retired Justices/Members who died after the effectivity of the 1987 Constitution, during the residue of their natural life except those who have changed their civil status: Provided however, That survivorship pension shall be authorized or paid to the deceased retiree's surviving spouse.

SEC. 2. Funds for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken out of the current appropriations and/or saving of the Court/Commission concerned. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for continued implementation in subsequent calendar years shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval and after thirty (30) days following the completion of its due publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.