JOINT RESOLUTION INCREASING THE MONTHLY PENSION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM PENSIONERS UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 1997

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8282 or the Social Security Act of 1997 recognizes the policy of the State “to establish, develop, promote and perfect a sound and viable tax-exempt social security system suitable to the needs of the people throughout the Philippines which shall promote social justice and provide meaningful protection to members and their beneficiaries against the hazards of disability, sickness, maternity, old age, death, and other contingencies resulting in loss of income or financial burden”;
WHEREAS, as of January 2016, there are about thirty-three million (33,000,000) members of the Social Security System (SSS) and two million one hundred fifty thousand (2,150,000) retirees currently receiving pension pay;

WHEREAS, considering the escalating cost of living, the meager amount of monthly pension that SSS pensioners receive is no longer adequate to support even their basic needs, most importantly their monthly food sustenance and medical needs;

WHEREAS, without appropriate and immediate intervention, the SSS will fail in its role to provide basic economic security for the people, curb poverty, provide economic stability, redistribute income, and preserve important social and individual values: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives and the Senate, To increase the monthly pension of the SSS pensioners by two thousand pesos (P2,000.00) under the Social Security Act of 1997, such that, the minimum monthly pension shall henceforth be three thousand two hundred pesos (P3,200.00) for members with at least ten (10) credited years of service and four thousand four hundred pesos (P4,400.00) for those with twenty (20) credited years of service.

Resolved, further, That the two thousand pesos (P2,000.00) shall be given in two (2) tranches: the first tranche amounting to one thousand pesos (P1,000.00) shall be given starting January 2017; and, the second tranche amounting to one thousand pesos (P1,000.00) shall be extended to the pensioners in January 2019.

Resolved, finally, That the SSS shall implement this Joint Resolution immediately.

Approved,