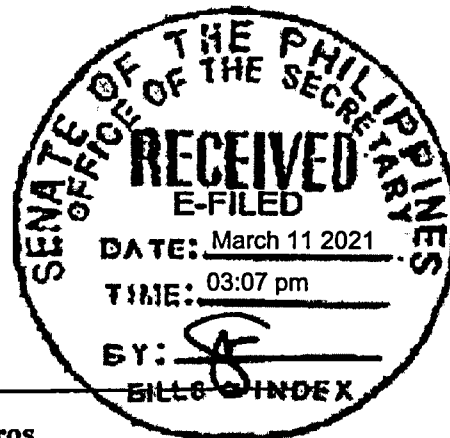


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE
P.S.R. No. 679



Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT TO IMPLEMENT A QUARTERLY RELEASE OF THE SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS INSTEAD OF THE CURRENT SCHEDULE OF EVERY SIX MONTHS

WHEREAS, Article XV, Section 4 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that, "It is the duty of the family to take care of its elderly members while the State may design programs of social security for them;

WHEREAS, Republic Act 9994, also known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010," provides for the distribution of social pension to qualified indigent senior citizens in the amount of Five Hundred Pesos (Php 500.00) a month;

WHEREAS, our senior citizens have been disproportionately affected by the Covid-19 health crisis not only for their health vulnerabilities, but the extended community quarantine has put them at a disadvantage;

WHEREAS, a study on Filipino older persons entitled, "2018 Longitudinal Study of Ageing and Health in the Philippines," showed that while many senior citizens are financially dependent on their children, a vast majority of them find difficulty in making ends meet;

WHEREAS, senior citizen beneficiaries of the social pension are indigent whose pension is spent on basic necessities like food and medication, such that even the slightest delay in its distribution can prejudice what is already a difficult life;

WHEREAS, in 31 January 2019, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) issued Memorandum Circular 004 series of 2019 directing the release of the monthly social pension every six (6) months;

WHEREAS, our senior citizens' need for financial assistance under these extraordinary times cannot be emphasized enough, and six (6) months is considered a long waiting time.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED TO URGE THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT TO IMPLEMENT A QUARTERLY RELEASE OF THE SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS.

Adopted.

Risa Hontiveros
RISA HONTIVEROS
Senator