


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



'22 JUL 18 A9:43

SENATE
S. No. 683

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

**AN ACT
RATIONALIZING THE DISABILITY PENSION OF VETERANS, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6948, ENTITLED, "AN ACT
STANDARDIZING AND UPGRADING THE BENEFITS FOR MILITARY
VETERANS AND THEIR BENEFICIARIES," AS AMENDED**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

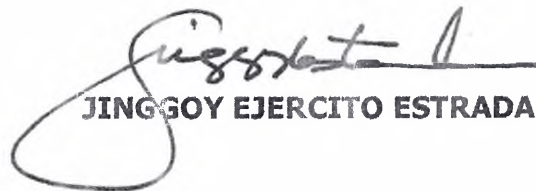
This legislation proposes to address the pressing need for our veterans and their beneficiaries, who have been disabled due to sickness, disease, wounds, or injuries sustained in the line of duty, to increase and rationalize the disability pension rates.

The State, in recognizing the sacrifices and patriotic services of our veterans for the cause of freedom and democracy and maintenance of peace and order, should continue fulfilling its constitutional mandate to "provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns and their surviving spouses"¹ (*Sec. 7, Article XVI of the 1987 Constitution*) and beneficiaries.

¹ Official Gazette. "The Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines." Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines, 2019, www.officialgazette.gov.ph/constitutions/1987-constitution/.

It is the intention of this measure to support our veterans by increasing the disability pension to cover, among others, medical and hospitalization expenses, the economic and social ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the increase in the prices of oil, food, and other consumer goods.

In this light, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended.



JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

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

1 Section 1. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 6948, as amended, is hereby further
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "Sec. 5. *Pension Rates.* - A veteran who is disabled owing to
4 sickness, disease, wounds or injuries sustained in line of duty
5 shall be given a monthly disability pension in accordance with
6 the rates prescribed hereunder~~[, unless he is actually~~
7 ~~receiving a similar pension for the same disability from other~~
8 ~~government funds or from the United States Government];~~

9 "a) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from ten to
10 thirty per centum (10% - 30%) the monthly pension shall be
11 ~~[One thousand pesos (P1,000.00)]~~ **FOUR THOUSAND FIVE**
12 **HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 4,500.00);**

13 "b) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from thirty-
14 one to forty per centum (31% - 40%), the monthly pension

1 shall be [~~One thousand one hundred pesos (P1,100.00)~~] **FIVE**
2 **THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 5,300.00);**
3 "c) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from forty-
4 one to fifty per centum (41% - 50%), the monthly pension
5 shall be [~~One thousand two hundred pesos (P1,200.00)~~] **SIX**
6 **THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 6,100.00);**
7 "d) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from fifty-one
8 to sixty per centum (51% - 60%), the monthly pension shall
9 be [~~One thousand three hundred pesos (P1,300.00)~~] **SIX**
10 **THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 6,900.00);**
11 "e) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from sixty-
12 one to seventy per centum (61% - 70%), the monthly pension
13 shall be [~~One thousand hundred pesos (P1,400.00)~~] **SEVEN**
14 **THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 7,700.00);**
15 "f) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from seventy-
16 one to eighty per centum (71% - 80%), the monthly pension
17 shall be [~~One thousand five hundred pesos (P1,500.00)~~] **EIGHT**
18 **THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP**
19 **8,500.00);**
20 "g) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from eighty-
21 one to ninety per centum (81% - 90%), the monthly pension
22 shall be [~~One thousand six hundred pesos (P1,600.00)~~] **NINE**
23 **THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 9,300.00)**
24 "h) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from ninety-
25 one to one hundred per centum (91% -100%), the monthly
26 pension shall be [~~One thousand seven hundred pesos~~
27 ~~(P1,700.00)~~] **TEN THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 10,000.00);**
28 plus [~~Five hundred pesos (P500.00)~~] **ONE THOUSAND**
29 **PESOS (PHP 1,000.00)** for the spouse and each unmarried
30 minor children: *Provided*, That a veteran, [~~with or~~] without a
31 service-connected [~~or non-service connected~~] disability, upon
32 reaching the age of seventy (70) is deemed totally disabled

1 ~~[with one hundred per centum (100%) rating]~~ and shall be
2 entitled to a monthly pension of One thousand seven hundred
3 pesos (P1,700.00) **ONLY**; ~~[plus Five hundred pesos (P500.00)~~
4 ~~for the spouse and each unmarried minor children.]~~
5 **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE ENTITLEMENT TO**
6 **THE DISABILITY PENSION AUTHORIZED HEREIN**
7 **SHALL BE PROSPECTIVE AND LIMITED TO ELIGIBLE**
8 **LIVING VETERANS ONLY."**

9 *Sec. 2. Appropriations.* - The initial amount necessary for the implementation of
10 this Act shall be charged against the current year's available appropriations of the
11 Philippine Veterans Office. Thereafter, such sums as may be needed for the continued
12 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

13 *Sec. 3. Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
14 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise
15 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

16 *Sec. 4. Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
17 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or
18 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended
19 accordingly.

20 *Sec. 5. Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
21 complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) national newspapers of
22 general circulation.

Approved,