NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

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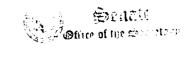
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SENATE S. No. 2534

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Prepared by the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development with Senators Zubiri, Revilla, Legarda, Binay, Go, and Estrada as authors thereof.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A ONE HUNDRED PESOS (P100.00) DAILY MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE FOR EMPLOYEES AND WORKERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

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

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "P100 Daily Minimum Wage Increase Act of 2023".

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy*. – It is a policy of the State to alleviate the living conditions of the ordinary Filipino through policies that provide for a decent and humane standard of living and improved quality of life, particularly of the working class by ensuring the right of labor to its just share in the fruits of production, to guarantee the workers' right to a living wage, and to promote social justice through the adoption of measures calculated to ensure the well-being and economic security of all the members of the community.

Sec. 3. *Wage Increase.* — The minimum wage rate of all workers in the private sector, whether agricultural or non-agricultural, shall be increased by One Hundred Pesos (P100.00) a day upon the effectivity of this Act. Nothing in this Act shall prevent the respective Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board to grant additional increases to the workers and employees on the basis of its determination pursuant to Republic Act No. 6727, otherwise known as the "*Wage Rationalization Act*", as amended.

Sec. 4. Non-Chargeability of Prior Increases. — No wage increase shall be credited as compliance with the increase prescribed herein unless expressly provided under valid collective bargaining agreements: *Provided*, That such wage increase was granted in anticipation of the minimum wage increase under this Act: *Provided further*, That where such increase is less than the prescribed increase under this Act, the employer shall pay the difference. Such increases shall not include anniversary wage increases, merit wage increases and those resulting from the regularization or promotion of employees.

Sec. 5. *Non-diminution of Other Benefits.* – Nothing in this Act shall be construed to reduce any existing allowance and benefit of any form under existing laws, decrees, issuances, executive orders and any contract or agreement between workers and employers.

Sec. 6. *Inspection by the DOLE.* – The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall, after approval of this Act, conduct inspection of payroll and other financial records kept by the company or business to determine whether the workers are paid the prescribed minimum wage increase and other benefits granted by law. In unionized companies, the DOLE inspectors shall always be accompanied by the president or any responsible officer of the recognized bargaining unit or of interested union in the conduct of the inspection. In non-unionized companies, establishments or businesses, the inspection should be carried out in the presence of a workers' representatives. The workers' representative shall have the right to submit his own findings to the DOLE and to testify on the same if he cannot concur with the findings of the labor inspector.

Sec. 7. *Penalties.* – Any person, corporation, trust, firm, partnership, association or entity violating any provision of this Act shall be punished by a fine of not less than Twenty Five Thousand Pesos (P25,000.00) nor more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than two (2) years nor more than four (4) years, or both at the discretion of the court: *Provided*, That if the violation is committed by a corporation, trust or firm, association or any other entity, the penalty of imprisonment shall be imposed upon the entity's responsible officers including, but not limited to, the president, vice president, chief executive officer, general manager, managing director or partner.

The employer concerned shall be ordered to pay an amount equivalent to double the unpaid benefits owing to the employees: *Provided*, That the payment of indemnity shall not absolve the employer from the criminal liability imposable under this Act: *Provided further*, That any person convicted under this Act shall not be entitled to the benefits provided for under the Probation Law.

- Sec. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Secretary of Labor and Employment shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.
- Sec. 9. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.
- Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause*. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
- Sec. 11. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication either in the *Official Gazette,* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,