

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
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Second Regular Session)



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SENATE
S.B. No. 2746

RECEIVED BY: JNY

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ENHANCED SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR THE WORKING POOR AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

For six decades now, the Social Security System (SSS) has provided social protection to Filipinos against likelihoods and eventualities such as disability and injury, sickness, maternity, old age, and death.

Our contributions to SSS translate to investments into our future and the future of our family. Contributions give citizens access to benefits such as disability aid, retirement relief, and life insurance. SSS also offers loans at reasonable rates that can be used for various purposes like putting a child through school or engaging in a small business.

These benefits can make a difference to fellow Filipinos living at subsistence level. As they earn below P100,000.00 annually, their contributions, unfortunately, are not regular.

While the poorest of the poor are covered by our social protection programs, only 6.5% of the 12 million self-employed Filipinos are paying their SSS contributions.

It is a lost opportunity for our countrymen that we consider the working poor, our farmers, fishermen, market and street vendors, tricycle drivers and the millions of who have micro businesses across the country.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

1 a) Ten percent (10%) of the share of the national government in all lotteries
2 conducted by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office to be used solely for medical and
3 health-related benefits;

4 b) Ten percent (10%) of the share of the national government in the earnings of
5 the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation; and

6 c) Ten percent (10%) of the eighty percent (80%) of the remaining balance of the
7 incremental revenue derived from Republic Act No. 10351 allocated for the universal health
8 care under the National Health Insurance Program, the attainment of the millennium
9 developmental goal and health awareness programs.

10 **SECTION 7. Administration of the Fund.** The Social Protection Fund shall be
11 administered by the SSS as a separate and distinct fund from the SSS investment Reserve Fund.
12 The government contributions provided for under this Act shall be drawn from the Fund.

13 **SECTION 8. Responsibilities of the SSS.** The SSS shall have the following responsibilities:

14 a) Administer the Social Protection Fund, including the preparation of an annual
15 financial report;

16 b) Device systems and procedures for the timely computation of aggregate
17 government matching contributions; and

18 c) Undertake coverage campaigns among the working poor.

19 **SECTION 9. Identification of the Working Poor.** On a nation-wide bases, the
20 government shall select the working poor using a standardized targeting system and shall verify
21 their monthly average income. The government shall conduct a revalidation of this selection
22 every three (3) years.

23 **ARTICLE IV**
24 **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

25 **SECTION 10. Transitory Provision.** Section 6 of this Act shall be implemented at the
26 beginning of the year following the approval of this Act.

27 **SECTION 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** Within six (6) months from the
28 effectivity of this Act, the Lead Convenor of the National Anti-Poverty Commission, the
29 Secretary of Labor and Employment, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Social
30 Security System (SSS), and the Executive Director of the ECC shall promulgate the necessary
31 rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

32 **ARTICLE V**
33 **FINAL PROVISIONS**

34 **SECTION 12. Separability Clause.** — If any provision of this Act is subsequently declared
35 invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain
36 in full force and effect.

37 **SECTION 13. Repealing Clause.** — Section 6 of Republic Act 9295 is hereby repealed. All
38 laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules
39 and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of
40 this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

1 **SECTION 14. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
2 publication either in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

3 Approved,