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SENATE -

S. B. No. 2848

RECED ED BY: 101

Introduced by SENATOR SONNY M. ANGARA

AN ACT

EXTENDING THE SERVICES OF A SCIENTIST WHO IS DUE FOR COMPULSORY RETIREMENT FOR A MAXIMUM PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8439, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, RESEARCHERS AND OTHER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PERSONNEL IN GOVERNMENT

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Filipino scientists and innovators have been lauded and recognized here and abroad for their significant contributions on medical, food development, climate change and disaster research, to name a few. Some have received awards for helping advance the cause of science while serving society at the same time.

To harness the expertise of Filipino scientists for a longer period of time, this proposed bill seeks to raise their retirement age from 60 to 65 years, amending for this purpose Section 16 of Republic Act No. 8439, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers, Researchers and Other Science and Technology Personnel in Government. The proposed measure would extend the services of scientists who are due for compulsory retirement for a maximum period of five years provided that their research project is within the priority research development programs of the Department of Science and Technology, and if the scientist is still mentally and physically fit to complete the project.

Given the knowledge, ideas, skills and leadership capabilities that senior scientists have acquired over the years, they are better fit to lead productive research groups and serve as mentors to students and young scientists. By raising their retirement age, we are not only allowing them to satisfactorily finish their research projects for the benefit of the country, we are also giving them the opportunity to teach and share their expertise to help shape the future of their respective scientific fields.

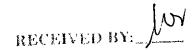
SENATOR SONNY M. ANGARA



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

SECTION 1. Section 16 of Republic Act No. 8439 is hereby amended by adding a new paragraph that shall read as follows:

"THE SERVICES OF A SCIENTIST WHO IS DUE FOR COMPULSORY RETIREMENT MAY BE EXTENDED FOR A MAXIMUM PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS: PROVIDED, THAT THE RESEARCH PROJECT IS WITHIN THE PRIORITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DOST) AND IS IDENTIFIED AS STRATEGIC TO THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AS CERTIFIED BY THE DOST SECRETARY; PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE SCIENTIST IS STILL MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY FIT TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT; PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF SERVICES SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL AT LEAST THREE (3) MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE COMPULSORY RETIREMENT OF THE SCIENTIST.

SERVICES RENDERED DURING THE PERIOD OF EXTENSION SHALL BE CREDITED AS PART OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE. SUCH EXTENSION SHALL ENTITLE THE EMPLOYEE TO LEAVE CREDITS AND OTHER BENEFITS."

SEC. 2. Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules, regulations, orders, circulars and memoranda inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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