



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

'17 JAN 30 P 4:30

SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 280

RECEIVED BY: JW

Introduced by Senator Poe

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON REVIEWING THE FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING THE SOCIAL PENSION FOR INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010".

WHEREAS, Article 2, Section 9 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states: "The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all";

WHEREAS, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution further provides that "...the family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the State may also do so through just programs of social security";

WHEREAS, in pursuit of the abovementioned Constitutional principles, Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the "*Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010*" was enacted into law on February 15, 2010;

WHEREAS, Section 5, Paragraph (h)(1) provides that "Indigent senior citizens shall be entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to Five hundred pesos (Php500.00) to augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens";

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 9994 also states that the social pension for indigent senior citizens shall be reviewed "every two (2) years by Congress";

WHEREAS, according to a study, the social pension for indigent citizens must also be reviewed, as a study¹ by Coalition of Services of the Elderly, Inc. states that "the benefit level for the social pension is inadequate to provide for the basic needs of low income pensioners" and that "the mandated Congressional review of the provision should lead to serious consideration of an increase to the benefit level";

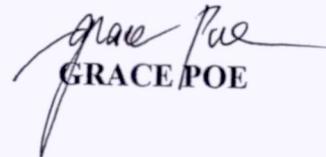
¹ Coalition of Services of the Elderly. "The Philippine Social Pension @ four years; Insights and Recommendations"

WHEREAS, the mandatory review of the social pension for indigent senior citizens is long overdue, as it has been almost seven years since R.A. No. 9994 was enacted;

WHEREAS, approximately 2.8 million indigent senior citizens will avail of social pension under the 2017 General Appropriations Act, according to estimates² by the Department of Finance;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the appropriate Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on reviewing the feasibility of increasing the social pension for indigent senior citizens under Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the "*Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010*".

Adopted,


GRACE POE

² Department of Finance. "Number of indigent senior pensioners to increase under 2017 budget" (18/10/16) retrieved from <http://www.dof.gov.ph/index.php/number-of-indigent-senior-pensioners-to-increase-under-2017-budget/>