

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

04 DEC -8 P4:54

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 141

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by Senator Biazon  
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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE EVER-INCREASING ARREARS OF THE GOVERNMENT ON THE PENSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VETERANS AND RETIREES.

Whereas, The 1987 Constitution, in Section 7, Article XVI provides that "(T)he State shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans x x x;"

Whereas, The government provides extensive pension benefits to the veterans as mandated by Republic Act No 6948 entitled " An Act Standardizing and Upgrading the benefits for Military veterans and Their Dependents," as amended, which was approved on 09 April 1994, which was also "Araw ng Kagitingan." These benefits include Old-Age Pension, Death Pension, Disability Pension and Total Administrative Disability Pension;

Whereas, Since the passage of the law in 1994, the government has not fully complied with its obligations to the veterans as shown by the huge arrears that it has incurred which now stands at P23 billion as of 31 December 2003;

Whereas, For Fiscal Year 2005, the amount of P13.06 billion is proposed for the pension requirements of 103,254 veterans which is still short of the P15.41 billion required, thus, it is expected that the arrears will only get bigger at the end of 2005;


Whereas, The situation for the AFP retirees is also getting worse, as the proposed P9.53 billion for the 103,254 regular pensioners does not yet include the mandated increases in pension as well as the resumption of pensions for the FYs 2000, 2001 and 2003 retirees who availed themselves of the 36-month lump-sum pension;

Whereas, While recognizing that the government is in a deep fiscal crisis compounded by successive natural calamities, it must still come up with a comprehensive and rational program to address the worsening state of veterans' affairs particularly in its funding requirements;

Whereas, This is necessary if the government is to uphold the national policy declared in RA No 6948 of "help(ing) foster the socio-economic security and general well-being of the country's veterans in recognition of their patriotic services in times of war and peace for the cause of freedom and democracy x x x;" *Now, Therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, As It Is Hereby Resolved, To Direct The Committee On National Defense and Security To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation, On The Ever-Increasing Arrears Of The Government On The Pension Requirements For The Veterans And Retirees*

Adopted,

  
RODOLFO G. BIAZON  
Senator