



**SENATE**  
**S.B. NO. 1346**

20 FEB 13 P 2 :49

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

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**AN ACT**  
**GRANTING BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO FORMER PRESIDENTS AND  
VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE PHILIPPINES OR THEIR SURVIVING  
SPOUSES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5059,  
REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2087, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act. No. 5059, Section 1 provides:

“Every former President of the Philippines shall be entitled to a life pension, tax-free, of forty thousand pesos annually beginning with the month following the date he ceased to be President of the Philippines”

Republic Act. No. 2087, Section 1 provides:

“The widow of any former President of the Philippines shall be entitled to a life pension, tax free, of twenty-four thousand annually”

Former Presidents and Vice Presidents continue to perform many of their public responsibilities even upon retirement. As former highest-ranking officers of the land, they have post-presidential and post-vice presidential duties to perform, among which are responding to post-presidency and post-vice presidency mail and invitations and attending to speaking engagements. In cognizance of these social obligations, existing legislations grant former presidents and their widows/widowers certain benefits and privileges.

However, the extent and coverage of said measures is not enough to sufficiently respond to the unique position of said former high officials in the public sphere even after they leave their post. In the United States, former presidents, under the Former Presidents Act of 1958, receive a monthly pension equivalent to the salary of a department secretary, among many other benefits. This was enacted to discourage them from being forced into activities deemed unsuitable for a

former head of state. Moreover, said measures cater to the needs of former President alone, excluding former Vice Presidents.

This bill seeks to expand Republic Act. No. 5059 and repeal Republic Act No. 2087 in order to aide our former Presidents and Vice Presidents in the performance of their public duties and responsibilities even after he is ceased to be President of and Vice President of the Philippines through granting of benefits and privileges to them and/or their surviving spouses.

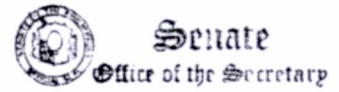
The passage of this measure shall honor our former state leaders with the benefits and privileges commensurate to their former post as the highest officers in the land, and will maintain the dignity of the Office of the President and the Office of the Vice President by ensuring that the former occupants thereof are properly taken care of.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY  
Senator

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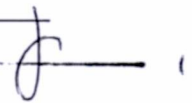
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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in  
Congress assembled:*

1           Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Former Presidents and*  
2 *Vice Presidents’ Benefits Act of 2019.*”

3  
4           Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State  
5 to maintain the dignity of the Office of the President and the Office of the Vice  
6 President and to honor former Presidents and Vice Presidents of the Republic by  
7 granting them certain benefits and privileges that will allow them to perform the  
8 duties and functions often required of a former President or Vice President.

9  
10           Sec. 3. *Eligibility.* – All former Presidents and Vice Presidents shall be  
11 entitled to the benefits and privileges provided under this Act: *Provided,* That  
12 he/she was not removed from office through impeachment; he/she has not been  
13 convicted by final judgement of any crime involving corruption or moral turpitude;  
14 and he/she has not accepted any appointive employment and/or has not ran for  
15 any elective position in the government after his term of office as President or Vice  
16 President.

1  
2  
3           *Sec. 4. Benefits.* – Each former President and Vice President eligible under  
4 this Act shall be entitled to the following benefits and privileges for the remainder  
5 of his/her life:

6           (a) Tax-free retirement pension equivalent to the salary of an  
7           incumbent President and incumbent Vice President for the former  
8           President and Vice President, respectively;

9           (b) Adequate personal security and protection detail of at least three  
10           (3) personnel to be provided by the Presidential Security Group and  
11           to be augmented by the Philippine National Police (PNP), as the  
12           need arises. The former President and Vice President shall have the  
13           right to choose the head of his/her own security detail;

14           (c) All mail matters of the former President and Vice President  
15           addressed for delivery within the Philippines shall be received,  
16           transmitted and delivered in the mails of the Philippines free of  
17           postage if the envelope or wrapper of such mail matter bears on the  
18           left hand corner the name of said former President or Vice  
19           President; and

20           (d) Fifty percent (50%) discount on all public transportation and foreign  
21           travel for him and an aide or accompanying person.  
22

23           *Sec. 5. Benefits extended to the immediate family.* – The immediate family  
24 of the former President and Vice President shall be entitled to the following  
25 benefits:

26           (a) Personal security and protection of at least three (3) personnel to be  
27           provided by the Presidential Security Group to be augmented by the  
28           Philippine National Police (PNP) or the children until they reach the  
29           age of 21, and for the surviving spouse for the remainder of his/her  
30           life or until he/she re-marries;

- 1 (b) Full scholarship for at least one (1) child of the former President and  
2 Vice President's children under twenty-one (21) years of age in any  
3 course in any state college and/or university;
- 4 (c) In the case of the former President's death, the surviving spouse  
5 shall be entitled to a tax-free retirement pension equivalent to the  
6 salary of an incumbent President: Provided, That if such  
7 widow/widower of the former President re-marries, he/she shall  
8 lose the benefits and privileges provided under this Act;
- 9 (d) In case of the former Vice President's death, the widow/widower  
10 shall be entitled to a tax-free retirement pension equivalent to the  
11 salary of an incumbent Vice President: Provided, That if such  
12 widow/widower of the former Vice President remarries, he/she shall  
13 lose the benefits and privileges provided under this Act; and
- 14 (e) All mail matters of such widow/widower, addressed for delivery  
15 within the Philippines, shall be received, transmitted and delivered  
16 in the mails of the Philippines free of postage if the envelope or  
17 wrapper of such mail matter bears on the left upper corner his/her  
18 name.

19  
20 *Sec. 6. Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to implement the provisions  
21 of this Act shall be included by the Department of Budget and Management in the  
22 annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

23  
24 *Sec. 7. Separability Clause.* – If any provision, section or part of this Act  
25 shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such declaration shall not affect,  
26 invalidate or impair any other provisions, sections or parts hereof but shall be  
27 merely confined to the provision, section or part thereof that is directly involved in  
28 the issue upon which judgment has been rendered.

29

1           Sec. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – Republic Act No. 2087 is hereby repealed  
2 accordingly. Further, all laws, decrees, orders, letters of instruction, rules and  
3 regulations or other issuances and parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions  
4 of this Act, including but not limited to Republic Act No. 5059, are likewise  
5 amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

6

7           Sec. 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
8 publication in (2) newspaper of general circulation in the country or in the Official  
9 Gazette.

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Approved,