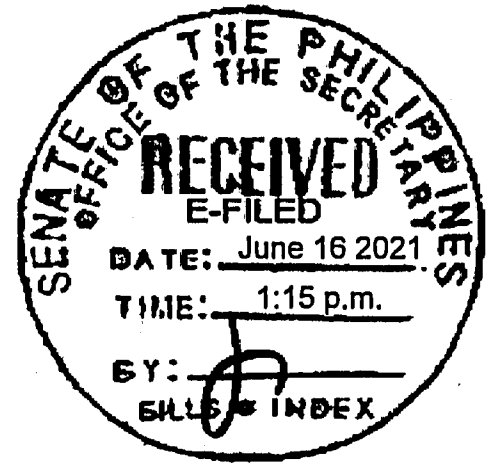


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



SENATE

S. No. 2294

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

AN ACT
RATIONALIZING THE DISABILITY PENSION OF VETERANS, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6948, ENTITLED, "AN ACT
STANDARDIZING AND UPGRADING THE BEENFITS FOR MILITARY
VETERANS AND THEIR BENEFICIARIES," AS AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 7, Article XVI of the 1987 Constitution states that the 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.

Pursuant to such mandate, Republic Act No. 6948 was enacted on April 9, 1990 to provide, among others, disability pension to veterans, who have been disabled due to sickness, disease, wounds, or injuries sustained in the line of duty, as well as to their spouses and unmarried minor children. Subsequently, it was amended in 1994 through Republic Act No. 7696 which adjusted the rates of such pension.

Unfortunately, since the enactment of Republic Act No. 7696 and despite the rising standards of living that sustained over time following economic downturns brought about by a series of global financial crisis, and the economic and social consequences of the current COVID-19 pandemic, these disability rates for our veterans have not been increased yet, rendering these amounts negligible and

ineffectual in covering the medical and hospitalization expenses as well as living expenses of these veterans.

In recognition of the patriotic service and sacrifices of these veterans, this bill seeks to increase and rationalize disability pension rates of these veterans, their spouses and beneficiaries. It shall provide an increase in the monthly disability pension of veterans with the following service connected disability rating:

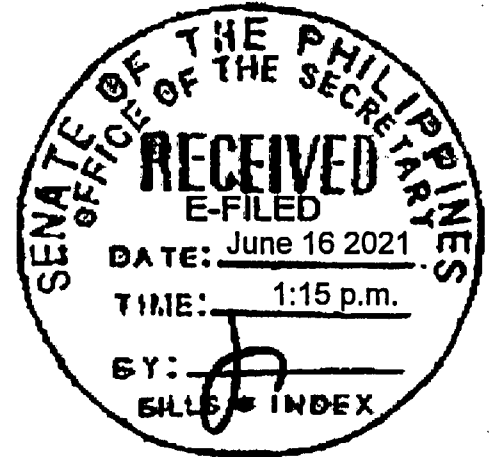
DISABILITY RATE	FROM	TO
10% to 30%	P1,000.00	P4,500.00
31% to 40%	P1,100.00	P5,300.00
41% to 50%	P1,200.00	P6,100.00
51% to 60%	P1,300.00	P6,900.00
61% to 70%	P1,400.00	P7,700.00
71% to 80%	P1,500.00	P8,500.00
81% to 90%	P1,600.00	P9,300.00
91% to 100%	P1,700.00	P10,000.00

It also provides (1) an increase the additional monthly disability pension for spouses and each unmarried minor children of veterans with service connected disability rating from 91% to 100% to One Thousand pesos (P1,000) from Five hundred pesos (P500.00), (2) entitlement of a veteran without a service-connected disability to a monthly pension of One thousand seven hundred pesos (P1,700.00) upon reaching the age of seventy (70), and (3) that entitlement to the Disability Pension shall be limited to eligible living veterans only.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is sought.


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

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

1
2 Section 1. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 6948, as amended, is hereby further
3 amended to read as follows:

4 "SEC. 5. *Pension Rates.* – A veteran who is disabled owing to
5 sickness, disease, wounds or injuries sustained in line of duty
6 shall be given a monthly disability pension in accordance with the
7 rates prescribed hereunder[, unless he is actually receiving a
8 similar pension for the same disability from other government
9 funds or from the United States Government];

10 "a) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from ten to thirty
11 per centum (10% – 30%) the monthly pension shall be [One
12 thousand pesos (P1,000.00)] **FOUR THOUSAND FIVE**
13 **HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 4,500.00);**

"b) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from thirty-one to forty per centum (31% – 40%), the monthly pension shall be [One thousand one hundred pesos (P1,100.00)] **FIVE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 5,300.00);**

"c) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from forty-one to fifty per centum (41% – 50%), the monthly pension shall be [One thousand two hundred pesos (P1,200.00)] **SIX THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 6,100.00);**

"d) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from fifty-one to sixty per centum (51% – 60%), the monthly pension shall be [One thousand three hundred pesos (P1,300.00)] **SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 6,900.00);**

"e) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from sixty-one to seventy per centum (61% – 70%), the monthly pension shall be [One thousand hundred pesos (P1,400.00)] **SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 7,700.00);**

"f) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from seventy-one to eighty per centum (71% – 80%), the monthly pension shall be [One thousand five hundred pesos (P1,500.00)] **EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 8,500.00);**

"g) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from eighty-one to ninety per centum (81% – 90%), the monthly pension shall be [One thousand six hundred pesos (P1,600.00)] **NINE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED PESOS (PHP 9,300.00);**

"h) If and while the disability is rated anywhere from ninety-one to one hundred per centum (91% – 100%), the monthly pension shall be [One thousand seven hundred pesos (P1,700.00)] **TEN THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 10,000.00);** plus [Five hundred

1 pesos (P500.00)] **ONE THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 1,000.00)**
2 for the spouse and each unmarried minor children: *Provided,*
3 That a veteran, [with or] without a service-connected [or non-
4 service connected] disability, upon reaching the age of seventy
5 (70) is deemed totally disabled [with one hundred per centum
6 (100%) rating] and shall be entitled to a monthly pension of One
7 thousand seven hundred pesos (P1,700.00) **ONLY**; [plus Five
8 hundred pesos (P500.00) for the spouse and each unmarried
9 minor children.] **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE**
10 **ENTITLEMENT TO THE DISABILITY PENSION**
11 **AUTHORIZED HEREIN SHALL BE PROSPECTIVE AND**
12 **LIMITED TO ELIGIBLE LIVING VETERANS ONLY."**

13
14 Section 2. *Appropriations.* The initial amount necessary for the implementation
15 of this Act shall be charged against the current year's available appropriations of the
16 Philippine Veterans Office. Thereafter, such sums as may be needed for the continued
17 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

18
19 Section 3. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act is declared
20 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any affected thereby shall remain in
21 force and effect.

22
23 Section 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All existing laws or parts thereof inconsistent
24 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

25
26 Section 5. *Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from
27 its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
28 circulation.

29
30 *Approved,*