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

11.

SENATE

)

)

3

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 597

Submitted by the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance on FEB 0 2 2022

Re: **Senate Bill No.** <u>2506</u> Prepared by the Committees upon the recommendation of the Subcommittee on Social Pension Bills (Senate Bill Nos. 126, 133, 160, 259, 570, 1267, 2243)

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 126, 133, 160, 259, 570, 1267, 2243, taking into consideration House Bill No. 9459.

Sponsor: Senator Joel Villanueva

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance, to which were referred **Senate Bill No. 126**, introduced by Senator Poe, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR A UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE R.A. NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY R.A. NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010" Senate Bill No. 133, introduced by Senator Angara, entitled:

S 18.1

"AN ACT

INCREASING THE MONTHLY SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE THEREOF"

Senate Bill No. 160, introduced by Senators Hontiveros and De Lima, entitled:

"AN ACT

GRANTING UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION TO ALL SENIOR CITIZENS AGED 65 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED"

Senate Bill No. 259, introduced by Senator Pangilinan, entitled:

"AN ACT

INCREASING THE MONTHLY SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED"

Senate Bill No. 570, introduced by Senators Binay and De Lima, entitled:

"AN ACT

INCREASING THE MONTHLY SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 2 AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257, FURTHER AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO.

9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010"

Senate Bill No. 1267, introduced by Senator Revilla, entitled:

"AN ACT

INCREASING THE MONTHLY SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS, EXPANDING THE COVERAGE THEREOF"

Senate Bill No. 2243, introduced by Senators Sotto and De Lima, entitled:

"AN ACT

INCREASING THE SOCIAL PENSION OF INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432 ENTITLED, 'AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,' AS AMENDED"

and taking into consideration **House Bill No. 9459**, introduced by Reps. Ordanes, *et al, entitled:*

AN ACT

INCREASING THE SOCIAL PENSION OF INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432 ENTITLED, 'AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,' AS AMENDED

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached **Senate Bill No.** 2506 prepared by the Committees, entitled"

"AN ACT

INCREASING THE SOCIAL PENSION OF INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432 ENTITLED, 'AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,' AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 126, 133, 160, 259, 570, 1267, 2243, taking into consideration House Bill No. 9459 with Senators Poe, Angara, Hontiveros, De Lima, Pangilinan, Binay, Revilla, Sotto III and Villanueva, as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons

SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA Sub-committee on Social Pension Bills; Member, Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance

SEN. LEILA M. DE LIMA

Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. SONNY ANGARA Committee on Finance

Vice-Chairpersons

Pri S. Cambans SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO SE

Committee on Finance; Member, Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

Mach Udo

SEN. ČYNTHIA A. VILLAR Committee on Finance

SEN. W Committée on Finance

SEN. MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Member, Committee on Finance

France h. Marca

SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS *Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Committee on Finance*

SEN. RONALD, "BATO," DELA ROSA Committee on Finance, Member, Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

a triberes Gischerel SEN. RISA HONTIVEROS Committee on Finance May inter pella propose aneukurent

SEN. RICHARD J. GORDON Committee on Finance

SEN. GRACE POE

Committee on Finance

SEN. CHRISTOPHER BONG GO

Committee on Finance

Members

SEN. MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. EMMANUEL "MANNY" D. PACQUIAO

Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO Member, Committee on Finance

Bu

SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA JR. *Member, Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Member, Committee on Finance*

SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. PANFILO M. LACSON Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. FRANCIS "KIKO" N. PANGILINAN Member, Committee on Finance SEN. RISA HONTIVEROS Committee on Finance

SEN. GRACE POE

Committee on Finance

. .

SEN. RICHARD J. GORDON Committee on Finance

SEN. CHRISTOPHER BONG GO

Members

SEN. MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID Member, Committee on Finance SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA JR. Member, Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. EMMANUEL "MANNY" D. PACQUIAO Member, Committee on Finance SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO Member, Committee on Finance SEN. PANFILO M. LACSON Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. FRANCIS "KIKO" N. PANGILINAN

Member, Committee on Finance

Ex Officio Members

SEN. RALPH G. RECTO President Pro-Tempore

SEN. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI Majority Leader

M. DRILON SEN. FRA Mority Leader

HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III Senate President EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Third Regular Session

22 FEB -2 P1 :49

51.0 d

SENATE

S.B. No. 2506

(In substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 126, 133, 160, 259, 570, 1267 and 2243, taking into consideration House Bill No. 9459)

Prepared and submitted by the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development (upon the recommendation of the Subcommittee on Social Pension Bills); and Finance with Senators Poe, Angara, Hontiveros, De Lima, Pangilinan, Binay, Revilla, Sotto III and Villanueva, as authors thereof

AN ACT

INCREASING THE SOCIAL PENSION OF INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432 ENTITLED, 'AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,' AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1	SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further
2	amended to read as follows:
3	
4	"SEC. 2. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act, these terms are
5	defined as follows:
6	
7	"(a) x x x;
8	
9	× × ×;
10	

(h) x x x;

1

2

29

PROVIDER REFERS TO ANY **(I)** PENSION 3 GOVERNMENT OFFICE OR AGENCY, OR ANY 4 PRIVATE ENTITY WHICH PROVIDES PENSIONS TO 5 ENTITLED RECIPIENTS ON THE BASIS OF 6 CONTRIBUTIONS, GRATUITY, OR AS MANDATED 7 BY ANY GOVERNING LAW OR ISSUANCE, 8 INCLUDING THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS), 9 THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM 10 (GSIS), AND THE PENSION AND GRATUITY 11 MANAGEMENT CENTER (PGMC); 12 13 SOCIAL PENSION REFERS TO THE MONETARY (J) 14 **GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT THE** 15 DAILY SUBSISTENCE AND MEDICAL NEEDS OF 16 SENIOR CITIZENS WHICH SHALL NOT BE LESS 17 THAN ONE THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 1,000.00) PER 18 MONTH." 19 20 SEC. 2. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further 21 amended to read as follows: 22 23 "SEC. 5. Government Assistance. - The government shall provide the 24 following: 25 26 Employment "(a) 27 X X X;28

30 "Private entities that will employ senior citizens as
 31 employees, upon the effectivity of this Act, shall be entitled
 32 to an additional deduction from their gross income,

equivalent to fifteen percent (15%) of the total amount 1 paid as salaries and wages to senior citizens, subject to 2 the provision of Section 34 of the NIRC, as amended: 3 Provided, however, That such employment shall continue 4 for a period of at least six (6) months: Provided, further, 5 That the annual income of the senior citizen does not 6 exceed the latest poverty threshold as [determined] 7 PUBLISHED by the [National Statistical Coordination 8 Board (NSCB) of the National Economic and Development 9 **STATISTICS** Authority (NEDA)] PHILIPPINE 10 AUTHORITY (PSA) for that year. 11 12 $\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X};$ 13 14 Additional Government Assistance (h) 15 16 (1) MANDATORY Social Pension 17 18 "Indigent senior citizens shall be entitled to a monthly 19 stipend amounting to [Five hundred] NOT LESS THAN 20 ONE THOUSAND PESOS [(Php500)] (Php1,000.00) to 21 augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of 22 senior citizens [subject to a review every two (2) years by 23 Congress, in consultation with the DSWD]. 24 25 THE DSWD SHALL, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF 26 THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT 27 CONSULTATION WITH OTHER IN (DBM), 28 STAKEHOLDERS, REVIEW AND, WHEN NECESSARY, 29 ADJUST THE AMOUNT THE SOCIAL PENSION 30 EVERY TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF 31

3

32

THIS ACT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PRESENT

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AS PUBLISHED BY THE 1 PSA AND RELEVANT ECONOMIC INDICATORS, AS 2 REPORTED AND PUBLISHED BY PERTINENT 3 **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND AUTHORITIES.** 4 5 $(2) \times \times \times$ 6 7 (3) Social Safety Nets 8 9 Social safety assistance intended to cushion the effects of 10 economic shocks, disasters, and calamities shall be 11 available for senior citizens. The social safety assistance 12 which shall include [, but not limited to] food, medicines, 13 and financial assistance for domicile repair, shall be 14 sourced from the disaster/calamity funds of LGUs where 15 the senior citizens reside, subject to the guidelines to be 16 issued by the [DSWD] NCSC." 17 18

SEC. 3. Form and Manner of Payment. – The monthly stipend shall be released to target beneficiaries either in cash, direct remittance through the engagement of a service provider duly accredited by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, electronic transfer, or other modes of delivery, whichever is more practical and acceptable to the beneficiary, ensuring its release in the most expeditious and efficient manner.

25

SEC. 4. Waiver of Fees. – Any transaction or service fee arising from the engagement of a service provider, electronic transfer, or other modes of delivery with services fees for the release of the monthly stipends and other forms of assistance to target beneficiaries shall not be charged against the target beneficiaries.

30

31 SEC. 5. Transfer of Functions from the DSWD. – The implementation, 32 distribution, and management of the social pension for senior citizens shall, in

accordance with Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7742, as amended by Republic Act No.
11350, be transferred from the DSWD to the National Commission of Senior Citizens
(NCSC) within a period not exceeding three (3) years from the effectivity of this Act.

4

The absorption or transfer of regular or permanent and other employees of the affected offices and programs of DSWD shall be done in accordance with applicable laws, including civil service laws, rules, and regulations, and subject to the approval of DBM.

9

SEC. 6. List of Beneficiaries. – The DSWD, and thereafter upon full transfer of its functions and programs to the NCSC, shall update and validate the list of beneficiaries under this Act, in coordination with local government units and the PSA, through its community-based monitoring system established under Republic Act No. 11315, otherwise known as the "Community-Based Monitoring System Act".

15

SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NCSC shall, in consultation with DSWD, DBM and other concerned government agencies, as well as nongovernmental organizations and people's organizations of senior citizens duly accredited by the DSWD, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

22

SEC. 8. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DSWD. Thereafter such amount necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

27

28 **SEC. 9. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act shall be held 29 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain 30 in full force and effect.

31

32

SEC. 10. Repeating Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, and rules

- and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
 repealed or modified accordingly.
- 4 **SEC. 11. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its 5 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
- 6

3

7 Approved,