



Senate
Office of the Secretary

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**

23 JAN 26 A11 :13

**SENATE
S. No. 1784**

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go, Senator Mark Villar,
Senator Ronald Dela Rosa, and Senator Francis Tolentino

**AN ACT
GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO FORMER
PRESIDENTS OF THE PHILIPPINES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Former Presidents of the Philippines, to a certain extent, still serve as a representation of the country. As former highest-ranking elected officials of the country, former Presidents are expected to contribute insights on nation building and pressing national issues which may require their expertise.

Despite the end of their term, they are also expected to perform post-presidential duties such as meeting with foreign and local dignitaries, and attending public events and other social engagements. These duties often require them to employ the services of personal staff and maintain private offices.

To maintain the dignity of the Office of the President and honor former Presidents of the Republic, this proposed measure seeks to grant them certain benefits and privileges that will allow them to perform the duties and functions often required of a former President. The bill also provides them and their immediate family security protection in order to thwart any attempt to harm them even after leaving public office.

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



SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO



SENATOR MARK VILLAR



SENATOR RONALD DELA ROSA



SENATOR FRANCIS TOLENTINO



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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Former Presidents
2 Benefits Act of 2023."

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

7 **SEC. 3. Eligibility.** - All former Presidents shall be entitled to the benefits and
8 privileges provided under this Act.

9 **SEC. 4. Benefits.** – Each former President shall be entitled to the following, for
10 the remainder of his/her life:

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

15 (b) Personal security and protection of at least two (2) personnel to be provided
16 by the Presidential Security Group, and to be augmented by the Philippine

- 1 shall have the right to choose the head of his/her own security detail;
- 2 (b) Personal security and protection of at least two (2) personnel to be
3 provided by the Presidential Security Group, and to be augmented by the
4 Philippine National Police (PNP) as the need arises, for the immediate
5 family of the former President for so long as the said President is living;
- 6 (c) Adequate staff provided by the Office of the President, as the case may
7 be, to each former President. Such staff shall be selected by the former
8 President; and
- 9 (d) Suitable office space appropriately furnished and equipped, provided by
10 the Office of the President, as the case may be, at such place within the
11 Philippines as the former President shall specify.

12

13 **SEC. 5. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary to implement the provisions of
14 this Act shall be included by the Department of Budget and Management in the
15 annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

16

17 **SEC. 6. Separability Clause.** - Should any provision herein be declared
18 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof that are not affected thereby
19 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

20

21 **SEC. 7. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or
22 other issuances or parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
23 repealed or modified accordingly.

24

25 **SEC. 8. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
26 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,