

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

8 MAR -3 P45

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

S. No. 2100

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO and Senator RICHARD J. GORDON

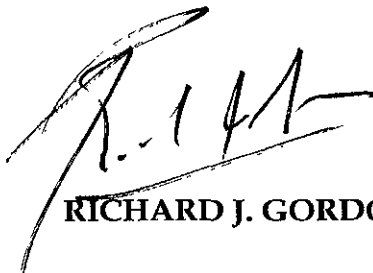
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to upgrade the retirement benefits now found in various retirement laws for Members of the Constitutional Commissions, and the Ombudsman, by adding survivorship benefits for the surviving legitimate spouse of the said retirees equivalent to the monthly pension of the deceased retiree's lifetime pension.

Survivorship pension originally was an integral part of the retirement system for the Armed Forces of the Philippines. But this feature has been included in the revised general retirement system for civilian personnel administered by the GSIS by P.D. 1146 since 1977 or more than 18 years ago.

The enactment of this bill into law would be in consonance with the 1987 Constitution provision on the upgrading of retirement benefits (Art. XVI, Section 8). It is also in keeping with the public purpose or rationale of the legislative grant of old age retirement pensions to qualified civil servants: To entice capable men/women of proven probity, integrity and independence to enter and remain in the government service, especially in highly sensitive offices, discharging their duties faithfully and efficiently. Liberal retirement benefits would assure them of retirement with relative security after rendering almost a lifetime of public service, when they have lost their vigor or are already old or incapacitated by illness or other disability.

Accordingly, the immediate approval of this bill is urged.



RICHARD J. GORDON



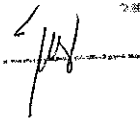
FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

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S. No. 2100

Introduced by **Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO** and **Senator RICHARD J. GORDON**

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS TO THE SURVIVING LEGITIMATE SPOUSES OF A DECEASED RETIRED MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS, AND THE OMBUDSMAN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SECTION 1. In case of the death of a retired Chairman or Commissioner of the Commission on Audit, the Commission on Elections, the Civil Service Commission, and the Ombudsman, the surviving legitimate spouse of said deceased retiree shall be entitled to receive on a monthly basis all the retirement benefits that the said deceased retiree was receiving at the time of his/her demise under the provisions of applicable retirement laws then in force. The said surviving legitimate spouse shall continue to receive such retirement benefits during his/her lifetime or until he/she remarries.

SECTION 2. Funds for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken out of the current appropriations for the retirement benefits of the Chairman and Commissioners of the Constitutional Commissions as well as the Ombudsman and / or savings of said Constitutional Commissions and the Ombudsman. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation hereof shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect after thirty (30) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,