

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'22 OCT 20 A8 :13

SENATE

S. No. 1406

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF
ALLOWANCE (PERA) GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Ensuring the welfare of government workers is a vital component of nation-building, especially in times of crisis.

The Personnel Economic Relief Allowance (PERA) is a subsidy granted to all government workers as a form of assistance to help them make ends meet in the face of dire economic conditions. The original intent of the PERA in the early 1990s was as an emergency allowance to serve as a buffer against the rising prices of basic commodities due to oil price hikes and instability in the Middle East.

The PERA was first given in 1991 pursuant to Budget Circular No. 4 that granted a Php 500 allowance to employees of the government. In 1993, an additional Php 500 was given by virtue of Administrative Order No. 53, and in 2009, through Joint Resolution No. 4, the PERA was raised to Php 2,000. Unfortunately, with the worsening economic conditions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and the skyrocketing prices of basic commodities and gasoline, this amount is certainly wanting.

As public servants, government workers are expected to prioritize their public duties at all times, and to make the necessary sacrifices in the exigency of service. The PERA serves to augment the modest earnings of a government worker, not just as an emergency allowance, but as a major source of additional funding to afford the basic necessities.

This bill seeks to realize the true intent of the PERA by increasing the Personnel Economic Relief Allowance from Php 2,000 to Php 4,000 as a form of economic relief to all government workers, and to subject the PERA to automatic yearly adjustments equivalent to any increase in the annual inflation rate in the country.

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


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

1 Section 1. *Personnel Economic Relief Allowance (PERA).* - The Personnel
2 Economic Relief Allowance (PERA) granted to government employees in the amount
3 of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000) per month is hereby adjusted to Four Thousand
4 pesos (P4,000) per month. This allowance shall be subject to an automatic yearly
5 adjustment equivalent to any increase in the annual inflation rate in the country.

6 Sec. 2. *Coverage.* - The PERA shall be granted to government personnel,
7 whether employed by the national or local governments, appointive or elective, and
8 whether occupying regular, contractual, or casual positions, as provided for by
9 Republic Act No. 6758, or the "Compensation and Position Classification Act of 1989,"
10 as amended, as well as military and uniformed personnel, Provided, That government
11 personnel stationed abroad already receiving overseas allowances shall not be entitled
12 to the provisions of this Act.

13 Sec. 3. *Appropriations.* - For the first year of the implementation of this Act,
14 funds necessary for the PERA of national and local government units shall be charged
15 against savings, which for this purpose includes unreleased appropriations and other
16 programmed appropriations. Thereafter, the amount necessary shall be provided in
17 the annual General Appropriations Act.

1 *Sec. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – The Department of
2 Budget and Management (DBM) shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for
3 the effective implementation of this Act.

4 *Sec. 5. Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
5 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
6 remain in full force and effect.

7 *Sec. 6. Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
8 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or
9 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended
10 accordingly.

11 *Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
12 publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,