

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 5465

Introduced by **Representative RANEO E. ABU**
Second District, Batangas

AN ACT

PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE SURVIVING SPOUSE AND CHILDREN OF SLAIN JUSTICES AND JUDGES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 910, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RETIREMENT OF JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT AND OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROVISIONS HEREOF BY THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM, AND TO REPEAL COMMONWEALTH ACT NUMBERED FIVE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX", AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Throughout the years, the country has experienced judiciary officials being murdered, assassinated, and brutally killed by criminals in the hopes of obstructing the ends of justice.

The Amnesty International reported that from 1999 to 2012, some 22 judges have been murdered or assassinated in the Philippines and this translates to two judges being killed annually. As stipulated in Section 2 of the Republic Act 9946, as amended, states that "when a justice or judge is killed intentionally while in service, the presumption is that the death is work-related."

The risk alongside the job of these judiciary officials should be counterbalanced by providing them with a grant that will encourage them to fully perform their duties and responsibilities. Hence, this bill seeks to support the judiciary by granting benefits to their surviving heirs in case they are killed while dispensing justice.

Upon its approval, this bill will embolden our judges and justices, especially the young idealistic judges and justices, to dispense justice without fear knowing that the government has their back and will support them, and their family, as they uphold the rule of law.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 910, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. In case a Justice of the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals, the Sandiganbayan or of the Court of Tax Appeals, or a Judge of the regional trial court, metropolitan trial court, municipal trial court in cities, municipal trial court, municipal circuit trial court, shari'a circuit court, or any other court hereafter established, dies while in actual service, regardless of his/her age and length of service as required in Section 1 hereof, his/her heirs shall receive a lump sum of five (5) years' gratuity computed on the basis of the highest monthly salary plus the highest monthly aggregate of transportation, representation and other allowances such as personal economic relief allowance (PERA) and additional compensation allowance received by him/her as such Justice or Judge: *Provided, however,* That where the deceased Justice or Judge has rendered at least fifteen (15) years SERVICE either in