

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 1182

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**RECEIVED**

DATE: 05 JUL 2016

TIME: 5:45 PM

BY: [Signature]

REGISTRATION UNIT  
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE PIA S. CAYETANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The so-called Filipino Comfort Women suffered tremendously during their ordeal in the hands of the Japanese Imperial Army. They suffered more when they courageously came out in the open to tell the whole world about the dastardly acts committed against them. The Government, however, chose to remain silent about their plight and simply waited for the sought-after recognition and compensation from the Japanese Government, a foreign state over which we have neither influence nor control.

This Bill seeks to recognize the fate of these "comfort women" and alleviate their suffering through financial and health insurance assistance from the Government.

For these reasons, approval of this Bill is urgently sought.

*Pia S. Cayetano*  
PIA S. CAYETANO

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 1182

---

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE PIA S. CAYETANO

---

**AN ACT**  
**PROVIDING FOR PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS TO COMFORT**  
**WOMEN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER**  
**PURPOSES.**

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

1 **SECTION 1. – Title.** – This Act shall be known as **The Comfort Women**  
2 **Compensation and Benefit Act.**

3  
4 **SEC. 2. – Definition of Terms. –**

- 5  
6 a. **“Comfort Women”** shall mean Filipino Women who were made sex  
7 slaves by the Japanese Occupation Army during World War II as may  
8 be determined by the National Commission on Women.  
9  
10 b. **“NCRFW”** shall mean the National Commission on the Role of Filipino  
11 Women.  
12  
13 c. **“Department”** shall mean the Department of Social Welfare and  
14 Development.  
15  
16 d. **“PVAO”** shall mean the Philippines Veterans Affairs Office.  
17  
18 e. **“Philhealth”** shall mean the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.  
19  
20

21 **SEC. 3. Determination of Comfort Women.** – The NCRFW is hereby tasked  
22 to determine the authenticity of the claims and identities of Comfort Women  
23 with the assistance of the various accredited cause-oriented women’s groups.  
24 Applications for the compensation and benefits herein provided for must be  
25 filed within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act, otherwise the same  
26 shall forever be barred.

1 **SEC. 4. Responsibility of the Department.** – The Department shall  
2 formulate a program for the proper counseling and guidance of Comfort  
3 Women taking into consideration not only their ordeal in the hands of the  
4 Japanese Occupational Army but more so the pain and suffering of retelling  
5 them in public.

6  
7 **SEC. 5. Duty of Philhealth.** – The Philhealth is hereby mandated to provide  
8 free full medical insurance to Comfort Women as may be determined by the  
9 NCRFW.

10  
11  
12 **SEC. 6. Responsibility of PVAO.** – The PVAO shall provide for the monthly  
13 pension of Comfort Women in the amount of Three Thousand Pesos  
14 (Php3,000.00).

15  
16  
17 **SEC. 7. Fund.** – An initial fund in the amount of Ten Million Pesos  
18 (Php10,000,000.00) is hereby allocated for the processing of applications and  
19 payment of pensions and insurance of Comfort Women identified by the  
20 NCRFW. Thereafter, the cost of the pensions and insurance shall be included  
21 in the budget of the PVAO and Philhealth under the General Appropriation  
22 Act.

23  
24  
25 **SEC. 8. Separability Clause.**– If any part, section, or provision of this Act  
26 shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions shall not be  
27 affected thereby.

28  
29 **SEC. 9. Repealing Clause.**– All other acts, laws, executive orders,  
30 presidential issuances, rules and regulations or any part thereof which are  
31 inconsistent herewith are hereby deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

32  
33  
34 **SEC. 10. Effectivity.** – The provisions of this Act shall take effect fifteen  
35 days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national  
36 newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved.*