

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

1921

HOUSE BILL NO.

Introduced by: HON. "KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO

ANACT

PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF ARREARS IN THE VETERANS
PENSIONS AND BENEFITS MANDATED PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO.
7696, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT STANDARDIZING
AND UPGRADING THE BENEFITS FOR MILITARY VETERANS AND THEIR
DEPENDENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Constitution under Article XVI Section 7 provides that the State shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans.

Unfortunately, the report of the Philippine Veterans Office of the Department of National Defense has showed that there are around P21 Billion accumulated arrears. The government should be able to address this concern in order to compensate the service of our troops who bravely fought for our independence and freedom.

The purpose of this bill is to provide a measure that will satisfy the outstanding obligations in favor of the veterans, military retirees and their heirs or dependents. The funds that may be used to settle these obligations may come from utilization of the proceeds from the development, lease, or other proprietary use of government properties.

In view thereof, the early passage of this proposed measure is highly recommended.

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"KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO

Representative First District of Bulacan

Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled PROTURE OF BEINEFERING VINES

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to provide immediate and adequate care and benefits to war veterans by allotting the necessary funds to pay for the arrears in the payment of pensions and other benefits of the veterans and military retirees or their dependents.

- SEC. 2. Coverage. This Act shall apply to the lease, development or use of the following properties of the government: JOSE ANTUNIO 1. 34 ALVARA
 - a. Former site of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) at Arroceros Street, Ermita, Manila,
 - LATED FURSUANT TO REPUBLIC SCHOOL b. Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Quezon City,
 - TOWN STREET REPORTED STOR MILITARY VETER WAS AND THE STR c. Taguig Industrial Estates, PRIATING BUNDS THERE OF

veterars and military retirees or the adopted ents

following reorgines of the government of gr

Additional Study and Standing

- d. Properties given by the Japanese government to the Philippine government under the Reparations Agreement, including the Roponggi, Nampeidai and Fujimi properties in Tokyo, and the Noniwacho and Obanoyama properties in Kobe, and on of hough this hereby declared the policy of the bank
- e. Other properties that may be identified by the Office of the President.

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SEC. 3. Privatization and Management Office. - The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) of the Department of Finance is hereby authorized to implement the actual marketing for the lease, development or use of the above properties and to perform the following:

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a. Execute and deliver, on behalf of the national government, the deeds, Contracts and other instruments as may be necessary or appropriate to effect the

lease, development or use of said properties,

- b. Engage external expertise as may be necessary in the fulfillment of its tasks,
- c. Submit periodic reports to the PVAO on the status of private sector participation in the lease, development or use of said properties, and
- d. Adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary to effect the provisions of this Act.
- SEC. 4. Funding Source. All proceeds from the lease, development or use of the properties mentioned in Section 2 hereof shall be utilized to fund the pension and benefits of veterans and military retirees, whether in arrears or due for payment by the national government Provided, That any shortfall in payment of pensions and benefits to veterans and military retirees shall be settled by the national government from other sources. All proceeds and receipts from the lease, development or use of said properties except operational expenses shall be remitted directly to any government bank as the depository bank and managed by the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office for purposes of automatic distribution of pensions and benefits directly to war veterans and military retirees.
- SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Secretary of National Defense shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Finance, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within six (6) months after its effectivity. attors in the lease, development of use of said preparios, and
- SEC. 6. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 7. *Effectivity*. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

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