

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
S E N A T E
MANILA

FIPST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 121



Introduced by Hon. Maceda

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Before it is too late, we should take heed of the loud and clear clamor of our countrymen for relief from the tight grip of want and privations of poverty due to the economic difficulties we are all in. While an increase in wages by legislative fiat is not the panacea to end the sufferings of our laboring class, yet in the intervening period between now and the promised recovery that Congress and the executive branch are fervently working on, a modest increase in daily wage will go a long way in alleviating the suffering of our working masses. It is significant to note that the inflation rate is now slowly creeping up and may reach 7 to 8% this year.

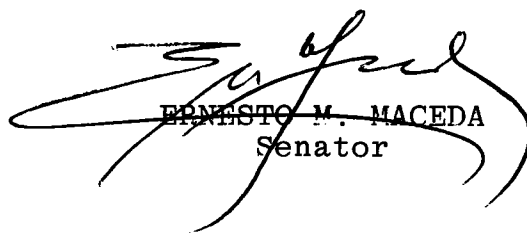
The amount involved in the wage increase being considered by the Executive Department is not enough. It is not even enough to buy one (1) ganta of rice which now costs about ₱16.00 nor the price of one kilo of the cheapest fish in the market costing no less than ₱25.00 per kilo. What can an ₱8.00 wage increase provide? When we start considering the other necessities of life like education, shelter and medicine, the amount being asked of here becomes a proverbial drop in the bucket.

We can go on citing examples but the result will be the same.

This bill also seeks to extend the full benefits of the new minimum wage not only to private sector employees but also to government wage earners.

Also, to prove sincere concern for our more oppressed rural workers, the distinction between agricultural and non-agricultural workers is hereby removed. The rural workers need higher salaries, not lower than their urban counterparts.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of the attached bill is earnestly requested.


ERNESTO M. MACEDA
Senator

/hff

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
S E N A T E
M a n i l a



FIRST REGULAR SESSION

S. NO. 135

Introduced by Senator Ernesto M. Maceda

AN ACT
INCREASING BY TWELVE PESOS PER DAY THE PRESENT
MINIMUM WAGE FOR ALL WORKERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE
GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. The present minimum wage for all employees and workers in the government and private sectors, whether agricultural or non-agricultural, is hereby increased by twelve pesos (P12.00) per day.

SEC. 2. Every year thereafter, the President of the Philippines may, by executive order and upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Labor, increase the minimum wage for all such employees and workers by not more than ten percent (10%) of the current minimum wage, taking into consideration the cost of living index, economic recovery requirements, social justice and such other factors to assure a decent, just and humane income for all workers.

SEC. 3. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,

OLS/HMO/BAB/SMM/jmb

10-06-87