3

4

5

7

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## H. No. 8101

BY REPRESENTATIVES FARINAS, UMALI, NOGRALES (K.A.), VELOSO, DE VERA, CUEVA, HERRERA-DY, SY-ALVARADO, BELMONTE (R.), TAMBUNTING, ZAMORA (M.C.), LEACHON, DEL MAR, LOBREGAT, NUÑEZ-MALANYAON, VILLAFUERTE, ANTONINO, SAMBAR, CAMINERO, OAMINAL AND PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 821

AN ACT GRANTING SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS TO THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF A DECEASED RETIRED MEMBER OF THE JUDICIARY WHO IS A SOLO PARENT, OR TO THE SURVIVING PARENTS OR NOMINATED PERSONS OF SUCH DECEASED RETIREE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 910, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

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

"Section 1. When a Justice of the Supreme Court, the 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, municipal circuit trial court, shari'a district court, shari'a circuit court, or any other court hereafter

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17 18

19

2021

22

23 24

25

26

27

established who has rendered at least fifteen (15) years service in the Judiciary or in any other branch of the Government, or in both, (a) retires for having attained the age of seventy years, or (b) resigns by reason of his/her incapacity to discharge the duties of his/her office as certified by the Supreme Court, he/she shall receive during the residue of his/her natural life, in the manner hereinafter provided, the salary which plus the highest monthly aggregate of transportation, representation and other allowances such as personal economic relief allowance (PERA) and additional compensation allowance which he/she was receiving at the time of his/her retirement, or resignation, and non-wage benefit in the form of education scholarship to one (1) child of all Justices and Judges to free tuition fee in a state university or college: Provided, That such grant will cover only one (1) bachelor's degree. When a Justice of the Supreme Court, the 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, municipal circuit trial court, shari'a district court, shari'a circuit court, or any other court hereafter established has attained the age of sixty (60) years and has rendered at least fifteen (15) years service in the Government, the last three (3) of which shall have been continuously rendered in the Judiciary, he/she shall likewise be entitled to retire and

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

2324

25

26

27

receive during the residue of his/her natural life also in the manner hereinafter provided, the salary plus the highest monthly aggregate of transportation, representation and other allowances such as personal economic relief allowance (PERA) and additional compensation allowance which he/she was then receiving and the non-wage benefit in the form of education scholarship to one (1) child of all Justices and Judges to free tuition fee in a state university or college: Provided, however, That any Justice or Judge with less than fifteen (15) years service in the Government or Judiciary, who shall retire due to reasons hereinabove provided, shall be entitled to a pro-rata monthly pension computed as follows: Number of years in the Basic pay plus the Government or Judiciary highest monthly aggregate transportation, 15 years representation and other allowances (PERA and additional compensation allowance) "It is a condition of the pension provided for herein that no retiring Justice or Judge of the aforementioned courts or his/her [surviving spouse] BENEFICIARIES UNDER SECTION 3 HEREOF receiving the benefits of this Act during the time that he/she is receiving said

pension shall appear as counsel before any court in any

2

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24 25

26

27

civil case wherein the Government or any subdivision or instrumentality thereof is the adverse party, or in any criminal case wherein an incumbent or former officer or employee of the Government is accused of an offense committed in relation to his/her office, or collect any fee for his/her appearance in any administrative proceedings to maintain an interest to the Government. national, provincial or municipal, or to any of its legally constituted officers. It is also a condition of the pension provided for herein that when a member of the Judiciary or his/her [surviving spouse] BENEFICIARIES UNDER SECTION 3 HEREOF entitled to the benefits of this Act shall assume an elective public office, he/she shall not, upon assumption of office and during his/her term, receive the monthly pension due to him/her."

SEC. 2. Section 2 of the same Act, 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 district 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] BENEFICIARY OR BENEFICIARIES LISTED IN SECTION 3

HEREOF 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 the Judiciary
or in any other branch of Government, or both, his/her
[heirs] BENEFICIARY OR BENEFICIARIES LISTED IN
SECTION 3 HEREOF shall instead be entitled to a lump
sum of ten (10) years gratuity computed on the same
basis as indicated in this provision: Provided, further,
That the lump sum of ten (10) years gratuity shall be
received by the [heirs] BENEFICIARY OR BENEFICIARIES
LISTED IN SECTION 3 HEREOF of the Justice or the
Judge who was killed because of his/her work as such:
Provided, That the Justice or Judge has served in
Government for at least five (5) years regardless of age
at the time of death. When a Justice or Judge is killed
intentionally while in service, the presumption is that
the death is work-related."
SEC. 3. Section 3 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby

"SEC. 3. Upon retirement, a Justice of the Supreme Court or of the Court of Appeals, the Sandiganbayan or

further amended to read as follows:

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

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 district court, shari'a circuit court, or any other court hereafter established shall be automatically entitled to 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 he/she was receiving on the date of his/her retirement and thereafter upon survival after the expiration of five (5) years, to further annuity payable monthly during the residue of his/her natural life pursuant to Section 1 hereof: Provided, however, That if the reason for the retirement be any permanent disability contracted during incumbency in office and prior to the date of retirement. he/she shall receive a gratuity equivalent to ten (10) years' salary and the allowances aforementioned: Provided, further, That should the retirement under Section 1(a) hereof be with the attendance of any partial disability contracted during permanent incumbency and prior to the date of retirement, he/she shall receive an additional gratuity equivalent to two (2) years lump sum that he/she is entitled to under this Act: Provided, furthermore, That if he/she survives

after ten (10) years or seven (7) years, as the case may be, he/she shall continue to receive a monthly annuity as computed under this Act during the residue of his/her natural life pursuant to Section 1 hereof: *Provided, finally,* That those who have retired with the attendance of any partial permanent disability five (5) years prior to the effectivity of this Act shall be entitled to the same benefits provided herein.

"Upon the death of a Justice or Judge of any court in the Judiciary, if such Justice or Judge has retired, or was eligible to retire optionally at the time of death, the surviving legitimate spouse shall be entitled to receive all the retirement benefits that the deceased Justice or Judge would have received had the Justice or Judge not died. The surviving spouse shall continue to receive such retirement benefits until the surviving spouse's death or remarriage."

"IN CASE THE DECEASED JUSTICE OR JUDGE WAS UNMARRIED AND HAD RETIRED OR WAS ELIGIBLE TO RETIRE OPTIONALLY AT THE TIME OF DEATH, THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS SHALL BE PAID AS FOLLOWS:

"(A) WHEN THE DECEASED JUSTICE OR JUDGE WAS A SOLO PARENT AS DEFINED IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8972, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "SOLO PARENTS' WELFARE ACT OF 2000", THE SURVIVING DEPENDENT CHILDREN OR OTHER CHILDREN UNDER THE CARE OF THE DECEASED JUSTICE OR JUDGE, INCLUDING CHILDREN WHO HAVE REACHED THE AGE OF MAJORITY

2

3

4

5

6 7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28 29

30

BUT ARE UNABLE TO FULLY TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES OR PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM ABUSE, NEGLECT, CRUELTY, EXPLOITATION, OR DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY OR CONDITION AS DEFINED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610. OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AGAINST CHILD ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION ACT", SHALL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE, ON A MONTHLY BASIS, ALL THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS THAT THE DECEASED JUSTICE OR JUDGE WAS RECEIVING AT THE TIME OF DEATH UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF APPLICABLE RETIREMENT LAWS THEN IN FORCE. THE MINOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM RECEIVING THE BENEFITS ONCE THEY REACH THE AGE OF MAJORITY. ANY SUBSEQUENT DEATH OR DISQUALIFICATION OF ANY OF THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN SHALL NOT RESULT IN THE ACCRUAL OF THE FORFEITED BENEFITS TO OTHER BENEFICIARIES.

"(B) WHEN THE JUSTICE OR JUDGE DIED WITHOUT ISSUE, THE SURVIVING PARENTS, IF ANY, OR UNLESS OTHERWISE DISQUALIFIED BY LAW, ANY PERSON OR PERSONS NOMINATED BY THE JUSTICE OR JUDGE PRIOR TO OR ON THE DATE OF RETIREMENT, SHALL RECEIVE ON A MONTHLY BASIS ALL THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS THAT THE DECEASED JUSTICE OR JUDGE WAS RECEIVING AT THE TIME OF DEATH UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF APPLICABLE RETIREMENT LAWS THEN IN FORCE: PROVIDED, THAT THE NOMINEES SHALL BE LIMITED TO TWO (2) PERSONS ONLY: PROVIDED,

1	FURTHER, THAT IF THE BENEFICIARIES ARE RECEIVING
2	BENEFITS UNDER EXISTING RETIREMENT LAWS, THEY
3	SHALL ONLY BE ENTITLED TO THE DIFFERENCE
4	BETWEEN THE AMOUNT TO BE RECEIVED PURSUANT
5	TO THIS ACT AND THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS
6	BEING RECEIVED. ANY SUBSEQUENT DEATH OR
7	DISQUALIFICATION OF ANY OF THE FOREGOING
8	BENEFICIARIES SHALL NOT RESULT IN THE ACCRUAL OF
9	THE FORFEITED BENEFITS TO OTHER BENEFICIARIES."
10	SEC. 4. The amount necessary for the implementation of this
11	Act shall be charged against the available appropriations of the
12	Judiciary under the current General Appropriations Act.
13	Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued
14	implementation shall be included in the annual General
15	Appropriations Act.
16	SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act,
17	the Secretary of Budget and Management, in consultation with the
18	Supreme Court, shall promulgate the necessary rules and
19	regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.
20	SEC. 6. If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid
21	or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected
22	shall remain in full force and effect.
23	SEC. 7. All laws, rules, regulations, orders, circulars and
24	other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the
25	provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified
26	accordingly.

- SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
  - Approved,