AN URGENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT AND THE DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED TO INCLUDE IN THEIR ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 THE OUTSTANDING PENSION DIFFERENTIAL OF MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL

WHEREAS, the State recognizes the significant role of the military and uniformed personnel (MUP) in securing our sovereignty and protecting our country from internal and external threats;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of state to ensure that the military and uniformed personnel who faithfully served the country and risked their lives in the performance of their duties enjoy the benefits of retirement accorded to them by the law;

WHEREAS, in recognition of the vital role of the MUP in national security and of the exceptional risk they take in the line of duty, their base pay was increased in 2018 through Joint Resolution No. 1 passed by Congress;

WHEREAS, said Resolution also suspended the indexation of the pension of the retired military and uniformed personnel;

WHEREAS, on January 1, 2019, said suspension was lifted, thereby, resulting to 2018 pension differential;

WHEREAS, the reductions of 70B in 2020 and 20B in the 2021 annual budget for Pension and Gratuity Fund resulted to the delayed payment of the 2018 pension differential of the MUP;
WHEREAS, on February 2021, the Department of Budget and Management released to concerned agencies an amount of 2.85B for the pension differential of the MUP but such amount covered only one month of said pension differential;

WHEREAS, the passage of the Bayanihan 3 by the House of Representatives could have addressed the problem through an allocation of 54.6B pension fund but the future of said measure is still hanging in the balance;

WHEREAS, the MUP pensioners were asked again to sacrifice by waiting for the available fund from the national government but three years is long enough to wait especially at this time of pandemic;

WHEREAS, not all pensioners are financially stable and most of them are suffering from age-related diseases.

WHEREAS, it is grave injustice on the part of the MUP pensioners to wait longer for the long overdue pension differential.


Adopted.

Aloysia T. Lim