

To Increase Pensions for the Members of the Puerto Rico Police

Act No. 208 of August 25, 2000

To establish an increase of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or the difference between the pension received and one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever is less, in pensions for the members of the Puerto Rico Police who are receiving or are entitled to receive pensions under one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per month, and to authorize the Retirement System Administrator to implement this Act.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

The members of the Puerto Rico Police enjoy a position of prestige and reliability in our society for their endeavor to provide security to the citizenry. Their daily labor is one filled with challenges and circumstances which jeopardize their lives and their bodily integrity. These are officials who enjoy devoting their working hours to the well being of their fellowmen by serving to protect the property and physical safety of Puerto Ricans.

As any other government official, pursuant to Act No. 447 of May 14, 1951, as amended, any retired member of the Puerto Rico Police is entitled to receive a monthly pension consistent with his or her contribution to the System and years of service as a government official. Through Act No. 134 of August 13, 1996, the benefits provided for in Act No. 10 of May 21, 1992, as amended, were extended to the members of the Puerto Rico Police, which Act provides for a three-year adjustment of three percent (3%) in pensions granted or to be granted by the Retirement System of the Employees of the Government of Puerto Rico.

At present, in spite of the three-year increase, these public servants undergo serious financial limitations, since the cost of living has doubled and the acquisitive power of said pensioners has decreased. In recognition of the years of service devoted by these members of the Commonwealth law enforcement bodies, it is justified to put into effect the increase referred to in the pensions of the retired members of the Puerto Rico Police.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:

Section 1. — (3 L.P.R.A. § 766f)

All retired members of the Puerto Rico Police or entitled to retirement under the terms of Act No. 447 of May 15, 1951, as amended, who are receiving or are entitled to receive at the time of retirement an annual pension or annuity for life under one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per month, shall be entitled to receive two hundred additional dollars (\$200.00) or the difference between the amount they receive as retired member of the Police and one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever amount is less, from the date of approval of this Act. The increase in said pension shall be made using the following formula:

The difference between the pension received by the retired member of the Police and the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or two hundred dollars (\$200.00), whichever amount is less, shall be divided into two (2) equal portions to be applied annually in order for the increase to be completed within a period of two years.

Section 2. — (3 L.P.R.A. § 766f)

The Retirement System Administrator shall take the necessary measures to comply with the provisions of this Act.

Section 3. — (3 L.P.R.A. § 766f)

The cost of the first portion of the increase established by this Act shall be defrayed with unencumbered funds in the Commonwealth Treasury, but the amounts needed for subsequent years shall be included in the General Expenses Budget of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Section 4. — (3 L.P.R.A. § 766f)

The Retirement System Administration of the Government shall receive the funds to cover the payment of this benefit before July 15 of each year.

Section 5. — (3 L.P.R.A. § 766f)

This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

Note. This compilation was prepared by the Puerto Rico OMB staff who have striven to ensure it is complete and accurate. However, this is not an official compilation and may not be completely free of error. It contains all amendments incorporated for reading purposes only. For accuracy and exactitude please refer to the act original text. Compiled by the Office of Management and Budget Library.