



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
**EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION**  
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**EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF  
THE FIFTH (5<sup>TH</sup>) JOINT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING,  
EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION, SERIES OF 2013,**  
*Convened at the Multi-Purpose Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, ECC Bldg., Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City  
Wednesday, 07 August 2013 at 9:00 A.M.*

**BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 13-08-24**

*Requesting the Congress of the Philippines to Amend Section 55 of R.A. 8291 for  
Purposes of Granting Double Recovery of Benefits Under the Government Service  
Insurance System and Under the Employees' Compensation Program*

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 18 of the 1987 Constitution provides:

*"The State affirms labor as a primary social economic force. It **shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare.**" (emphasis supplied)*

**WHEREAS**, employees in the private sector enjoy simultaneous recovery of benefits under both the Labor Code and under the SSS law;

**WHEREAS**, Section 55 of R.A. No. 8291, otherwise known as "The Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997," provides:

*"SEC. 55. **Exclusiveness of Benefits.**-Whenever other laws provide similar benefits for the **same contingencies** covered by this Act, **the member** who qualifies to the benefits **shall have the option to choose which benefits will be paid to him.** However, if the benefits provided by the law chosen are less than the benefits provided under this Act, **the GSIS shall pay only the difference.**" (emphasis supplied)*

**WHEREAS**, Art. 173 of P.D. No. 626, as amended, partly reads:

*"ART. 173. **Extent of Liability.**- xxx **The payment of compensation under this Title shall not bar the recovery of benefits as provided for***

