

Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

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REFERENDUM RESOLUTION NO. 13-03-06

Policy on the Simultaneous Granting of Sick-Leave benefits and EC Disability benefits in the Private Sector

WHEREAS, P.D. No. 626, as amended, is a social legislation with the primordial purpose to provide meaningful protection to the working class against the hazards of disability, illness and other contingencies resulting in the loss of income (ECC vs. Sanico, G.R. No. 134028, Dec. 17, 1999);

WHEREAS, Article 173 of P.D. No. 626, as amended, partly provides:

"ART. 173. Extent of Liability.- Unless otherwise provided, the liability of the State Insurance Fund under this Title shall be exclusive and in place of all other liabilities of the employer to the employee..." (emphasis and underlining supplied)

WHEREAS, the existing rules do not provide clear guidance on the granting of simultaneous sick-leave benefits and EC disability benefits in the event that the concerned employee has sick-leave benefits which are provided by his employer;

WHEREAS, SSS presently implements the practice of granting EC disability benefits to qualified employees regardless of whether they can still avail of sickleave benefits from their employers;

WHEREAS, this Commission believes that the SSS should continue the existing process which is in accordance with the policy of the State to construe social legislation liberally in favor of the beneficiaries of the Employees' Compensation Program (ECP);

NOW THEREFORE, ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED

This Commission **RESOLVES AS IT HEREBY RESOLVED** to declare that the grant of sick-leave benefits with pay and/or other similar benefits voluntarily granted by the employer shall not bar the grant of EC temporary or permanent disability benefits in the event that the claimed illness or injury of an employee in the private sector was found to be work-related.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this Resolution be duly furnished the GSIS for information and appropriate action and the SSS for guidance.

APPROVED in the City of Makati, this 21th day of March 2013.

SEC. ROSALINDA DIMAPILIS-BALDOZ

Chairperson

Department of Labor and Employment

ACNES E. SAN JOSE

Member-Designate Social Security System

CARLITO P. ROBLE

Member

Employees' Sector

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Member-Designate

Philipping Health Insurance Corporation

DIONISIO C. EBDANE, JR.

Member-Designate

Government Service Insurance System

MIGUEL B VARELA

Member

Employers' Sector

DAVID E. CABANAG, JR.

Member

Civil Service Commission

STELLA ZIPAGAN-BANAWIS

Member

Employees' Compensation Commission - Secretariat