FIFTEENTH CONGRESS REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



"11 MAY 18 P4:26

SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

S. B. No. 2832

Introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The well-being of the elderly has always been a primary concern of the State. It is the duty of the State to look after the welfare of the senior citizens. Senior citizens are an integral part of the society, and they have and continue to contribute significantly to the economy.

However, there is a sector of elderly members in the society that has been overlooked even if their contributions have been just as relevant and considerable. These are the foreign nationals who have relocated to the Philippines and chosen the country as their second home. Many foreigners have come for different reasons, either to set up a business or to settle themselves for retirement, considering that the Philippines has better options to offer as a retirement place than other countries. Foreign senior citizens who have settled in the country have brought in considerable investments and have contributed to the local economy, as they have not only provided jobs to our people but at the same time patronized our local businesses as well. In a way, foreign senior citizens living in the country have taken a role in nation building.

The foreign nationals who have taken up permanent residence in the country and have integrated into Philippine society are a part of our country as our own citizens. They live in the country like all else and are deserving of better treatment and care as senior citizens. Hence, the bill seeks to extend to them the privileges granted to the Filipino elderly under the Expanded Senior Citizens law. Foreign citizens as they are, they are still senior citizens who deserve respect, support and better treatment.

Therefore, the bill seeks to grant foreign nationals residing in the Philippines who are at least 60 years of age the same privileges given to our senior citizens under the Expanded Senior Citizens law.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

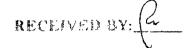
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AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

SECTION 1. A new section 4-A of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as "An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and For Other Purposes", is hereby added to read as follows:

"SEC. 4-A. PRIVILEGES FOR ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIENS. - THE PRIVILEGES GRANTED TO SENIOR CITIZENS UNDER THIS ACT AND THE CONDITIONS THERETO SHALL APPLY TO ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIENS, HEREBY DEFINED AS FOREIGN NATIONALS RESIDING IN THE PHILIPPINES WHO ARE AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OF AGE.

IN AVAILING OF THESE PRIVILEGES, THE ELDERLY DULY AUTHORIZED HIS/HER ALIEN. OR RESIDENT MAY **SUBMIT** AS **PROOF** OF REPRESENTATIVE, ENTITLEMENT THERETO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) AN IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF SENIOR CITIZEN AFFAIRS (OSCA) OF THE PLACE WHERE THE ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIEN RESIDES: PROVIDED, THAT THE IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE PARTICULAR OSCA BE HONORED NATIONWIDE; (2) PHILIPPINE SHALL RETIREMENT AUTHORITY IDENTIFICATION CARD; (3) ALIEN CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION 1-CARD; (4) OTHER DOCUMENTS THAT ESTABLISH THAT THE ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIEN IS AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OF AGE AND A RESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS FURTHER PROVIDED IN THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THIS ACT.

THE TAX DEDUCTION ALLOWED TO ESTABLISHMENTS UNDER SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT AND THE CONDITIONS THERETO SHALL ALSO APPLY WHEN DISCOUNTS UNDER SUBSECTIONS 4(A) AND 4(C) ARE GRANTED TO ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIENS."

Sec. 2. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 3. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

Sec. 4. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,