

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HB NO. 362



Introduced by Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga

EXPLANATORY NOTE

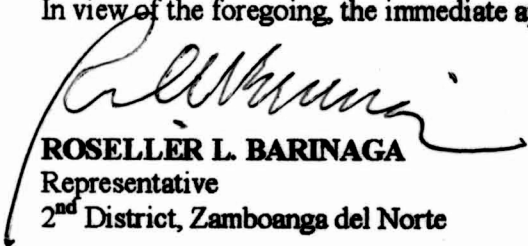
Section 4, Article XV and Section 11, Article XIII of the Philippine Constitution enunciates the duty of the State to provide basic social services to senior citizens.

This policy was echoed through the enactment of Republic Act No. 7432, otherwise known as the Senior Citizens Law, giving senior citizens an opportunity to maximize their contribution to nation building and rewarding them for the significant roles they played during their younger years.

This bill seeks to enhance the privileges already granted to senior citizens by including costs of electric and water utilities in the list of items subject to the twenty percent (20%) discount privilege. The measure also provides for exemption from the payment of real property taxes on the family homes of senior citizens, as well as exemption from the payment of the twenty percent (20%) withholding tax on interest income from bank deposits.

In addition, it is also proposed that funeral and burial expenses, including costs for interment, cremation and other disposition of a corpse, suitable monument, epitaph and cost of the burial lot shall be covered by the discount privilege as part of the social services afforded to senior citizen. In their final journey in life, it is a fact that most senior citizens are not financially prepared to meet the attendant expenses. They clamor for government assistance so that they will have the opportunity to be buried in a dignified manner.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



ROSELLER L. BARINAGA

Representative

2nd District, Zamboanga del Norte

Congress of the Philippines)
Thirteenth Congress)
First Regular Session)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB NO. 362

Introduced by Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga

AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, 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. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7432 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"a) the grant of twenty percent (20%) discount from all establishments relative to utilization of WATER AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLIED BY PUBLIC UTILITIES: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE INDIVIDUAL METERS FOR THE FOREGOING UTILITIES ARE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN CONCERNED: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT THE MONTHLY CONSUMPTION DOES NOT EXCEED THREE HUNDRED KILOWATT PER HOUR (300 KHP) FOR ELECTRICITY, AND THIRTY CUBIC METER (30 m3) FOR WATER: *PROVIDED, FINALLY*, THAT THE PRIVILEGE COULD ONLY BE AVAILED OF IN ONE HOUSE, transportation services, hotels and similar lodging establishments, restaurants and recreation centers and purchase of medicines anywhere in the country, FUNERAL AND BURIAL EXPENSES, INCLUDING EXPENSES FOR INTERNMENT, CREMATION AND OTHER DISPOSITION OF A CORPSE, SUITABLE MONUMENT, EPITAPH AND THE COST OF THE BURIAL LOT: *Provided*, That private establishments AND PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES may claim the cost as tax credit."

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"g) EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAX AND/OR ANY ASSEESMENTS ON REAL PROPERTY ON THEIR FAMILY HOMES, INCLUDING THE LAND ON WHICH IT IS SITUATED;

h) EXEMPTION FROM THE TWENTY PERCENT (20%) WITHHOLDING TAX ON INTEREST INCOME FROM BANK DEPOSITS FOR DEPOSIT

ACCOUNTS NOT EXCEEDING TWO MILLION PESOS (P2,000,000.00),
PROVIDED, THAT THE EXEMPTION CAN ONLY BE AVAILED IN ONE
BANK.”

SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.* If any portion or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, such declaration shall not invalidate other parts thereof, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* All laws and rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen days following the publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,