

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HB NO. 363



Introduced by **Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga**

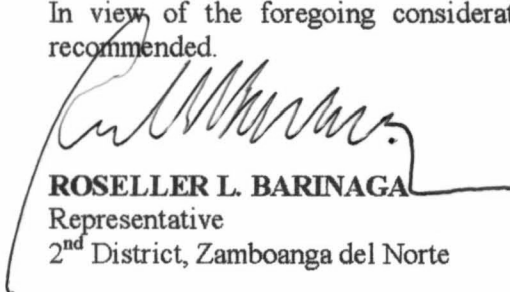
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Growing old does not make one a victim. It is a good thing to be able to live long life so one should be proud of it. Strictly speaking, when we talk of senior citizen we refer to those who are 60 years or over who have retired from private to public service and are neither gainfully employed nor have any other source of income except their retirement benefits. We can of course expand the definition by saying that a senior citizen is also one who has an income of not more than one hundred thousand pesos (P100, 000.00) per annum. This is to widen the scope of the term "senior citizen" and to include also those who earn (P60, 000.00) or less per annum, as originally enunciated in Republic Act 7432.

Admittedly, while the value of earning for the elderly is embedded in the Filipino culture and springs from there, it now derives strength from the Constitution under Article XV, Section 4 which says: "The family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the state may also do so through just programs of social security." It cannot be denied that in their own ways no matter how quiet and small senior citizen have contributed to the common effort in making the Philippines a better to live in. Hence, this bill.

This proposed bill seeks to provide additional benefits to senior citizens. Due to the high cost of funeral services there is also a need to include among the privileges now enjoyed by senior citizens, a 20% discount on purchases of funeral services (on a pre-need basis) to lessen the burden of the family left behind by the elderly when he passes on. This bill further proposes establishment an Office of the Senior Citizen Affairs (OSCA) in the Office of the Governor and City Mayor to be headed by a Provincial Board Member and a City Councilor, respectively.

In view of the foregoing considerations, approval of this bill is highly and earnestly recommended.



ROSELLER L. BARINAGA

Representative

2nd District, Zamboanga del Norte

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB NO. 363

Introduced by **Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga**

AN ACT

**PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO SENIOR CITIZENS AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED SEVENTY FOUR HUNDRED
AND THIRTY TWO**

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act 7432 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 2. Definition of Terms – As used in this Act, the term “senior citizen” shall mean any resident of the Philippines at least sixty (60) years old, including those who have retired from both government offices and private enterprises and have an income of not more than [sixty thousand pesos (P60, 000.00)] ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) PER ANNUM SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE national Economic Development Authority (NEDA) every (3) years.

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SEC. 2. Section 4 of the same Act is also hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. Privileges for the Senior Citizens – The senior citizens shall be entitled to the following:

a) the grant of twenty percent (20%) discount from all establishments relative to the utilization of transportation services, hotels and similar lodging establishment, restaurants and recreation centers [and] purchases of medicines anywhere in the country [:] AND FUNERAL SERVICES (ON A PRE-NEED SERVICES BASIS): *Provided*, That the private establishments may claim the cost as tax exempt:

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SEC. 3. Section 7 of the same Act also hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 7. The Office for Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA). There shall be established in the Office of the Mayor AND THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR an OSCA to be RESPECTIVEY headed by a councilor AND A PROVINCIAL BOARD MEMBER who shall be designated by the Sangguniang Bayan AND SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN RESPECTIVELY, and assisted by the Community Development Officer in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

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SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.