

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 811

Introduced by Representative Harlin Cast. Abayon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed measure seeks to grant 20% discount on the purchase of prepaid cellcards by a senior citizen whose annual income does not exceed Php 120,000.00 amending for the purpose Sections 2 and 4 of R. A. no. 7432, otherwise known as the "Law maximizing the contribution of Senior Citizens to nation building, grant benefits and special privileges".

Senior citizens are now in the twilight years of their lives and most of them having retired from work, have no sufficient income to support their families, particularly at this time when prices of commodities have skyrocketed beyond the reach of minimum wage earners.

According to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), as of 1995, 5.45% of the total population are senior citizens. These 5.45% of the total population are entitled to the privileges as provided in this bill.

The amendment is being proposed in order to help provide for our senior citizens' basic needs and assist them to continue contributing to our growth as a nation. Moreover, senior citizens, with the use of cellphones, can assist in minimizing/eliminating criminality in their communities by calling barangay officials and policemen for quick response to any untoward incidents.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of the bill is earnestly requested.

HARLIN CAST. ABAYON

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AN ACT
GRANTING TWENTY PERCENT(20%) DISCOUNT ON THE PURCHASE OF CELLCARDS BY A SENIOR CITIZEN WHOSE INCOME IS NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (P120,000.00) PER ANNUM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LAW MAXIMIZING THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES."

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

SECTION 1. The first paragraph of Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 2. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act, the term "senior citizens" shall mean any resident of the Philippines at least sixty (60) years old, including those who have retired from government offices and private enterprises, and has an income of not more than ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND (Php 120,000.00) (Sixty thousand-Php 60,000.00) pesos per annum, subject to review by the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) every three (3) years.

SECTION 2. Subsection (a) of Section 4 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 4. Privileges for the Senior Citizen. – 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) purchase of medicines AND CELLCARDS, PROVIDED THAT A SENIOR CITIZEN SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ONLY ONE CELLCARD A MONTH, DULY NOTED IN A PASSBOOK ISSUED BY THE OSCA, any where in the country: Provided, That private establishments may claim the cost as tax credit".

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,