

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4555



Introduced by **Suharto T. Mangudadatu**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill intends to maximize further the benefits and special privileges presently extended by the government to senior citizens of the land under RA No. 9257 in consonance with the state policies embodied under Article XIII, Section 11 and under Article XV, Section 4 of the Constitution.

Under RA No. 9257 enacted on February 26, 2004, senior citizens are entitled to discounted rates of twenty percent (20%) in the purchase of medicines as well as in the utilization of transportation, hotel and restaurant, entertainment and amusement, medical, dental, funeral and burial and other services from both the public and the private sectors.

Since the enactment of said law, however, the cost of living has escalated, in effect eroding the financial benefits from the discounted rates of twenty percent (20%) which our senior citizens have been privileged to enjoy through RA No. 9257. Living conditions have further been aggravated by the natural calamities and the political turmoil that have recently stricken the country.

Approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU



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AN ACT

INCREASING THE DISCOUNT PRIVILEGES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS FROM ALL ESTABLISHMENTS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZEN TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES AS AMENDED"

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of representatives of the Philippines in congress assembled:

SEC. 1. Section 4 of the Republic Act No. 9257 otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003" as amended is 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%)] **THIRTY PERCENT (30%)** discount from all establishments relative to the utilization of services in hotels and similar lodging establishments, restaurants and recreation centers, and purchase of medicines in all establishment for the exclusive use or enjoyment of senior citizens, including funeral and burial services for the death of senior citizens;"

(b)"a minimum of [twenty percent (20%)] **THIRTY PERCENT (30%)** discount on admission fees charged by the theaters, cinema houses and concert halls, circuses, carnivals, and other similar places of culture, leisure and amusement for the exclusive use or enjoyment of senior citizens;"

(f)"the grant of [twenty percent (20%)] **THIRTY PERCENT (30%)** discount on medical and dental services, and diagnostic and laboratory fees provided under Section 4(e) hereof, including professional fees of attending doctors in all private hospitals and medical facilities, in accordance with the rules and regulations to be issued by the Department of Health, in coordination with the Philippine Health Insurance corporation;"

(g) "the grant of [twenty percent (20%)] **THIRTY PERCENT (30%)** discount in fare for domestic air and sea travel for the exclusive use and enjoyment of senior citizens;"

(f) "the grant of [twenty percent (20%)] **THIRTY PERCENT (30%)** discount in public railways, skyways and bus fare for the exclusive use and enjoyment of senior citizens;"

SEC. 2. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules and regulation or part thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.