

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

15th CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1859

Introduced by Representative Lagdameo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

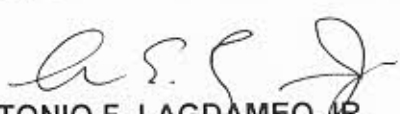
It is enshrined in the Constitution the role of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

Article XV Section 4 of the 1987 Constitution enunciates the family's duty to care for its elderly members and which the State may do so through just programs of social security. Likewise, it is stated in Article XIII that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children.

In order to give life to the provisions of the 1987 Constitution and the Expanded Senior's Citizens Act, this bill seeks to provide additional financial assistance to senior citizens to help them cope with their needs and the continuous rise in prices of commodities and other services.

The benefits provided under this measure will help alleviate living conditions of our elderly who for having offered their best years for this country deserve all the necessary assistance during their twilight years.

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


ANTONIO F. LAGDAMEO JR.
Representative
2nd Dist, Davao Del Norte

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Quezon City

15th CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 1859

Introduced by Representative Antonio F. Lagdameo Jr.

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR MONTHLY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFIED
SENIOR CITIZENS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Senior Citizens Financial Assistance Act of 2010."

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the policy of the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to social development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services affordable and accessible to all. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged and the elderly.

Sec. 3. *Financial and Loan Assistance.* There shall be a monthly financial assistance for qualified senior citizens of One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) starting on their 60th birthday.

They may also avail of a loan assistance in the amount of P Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00) to be used for income generating or any entrepreneurial activity.

Sec. 4. *Qualifications.* To avail of the financial and other benefits under this Act, a senior citizen must:

- a. be a Filipino Citizen
- b. must be sixty (60) years of age or older
- c. must be unemployed, has no other sources of income or relatives capable of giving support and without adequate means of subsistence.
- d. must be within the poverty threshold as determined by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

An identification card shall be issued by DSWD to enable the qualified senior citizen to claim the quarterly financial assistance. Application of loans shall likewise be filed with the DSWD.

Sec. 5. *Review by Congress.* The amounts granted under this Act shall be subject to review every two (2) years by Congress, in consultation with the DSWD.

Sec. 6. DSWD shall in consultation with affected sectors issue the necessary rules and regulations and publish or cause to publish these rules in a newspaper of general circulation.

Sec. 7. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or portions thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 8. If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, other parts or provisions thereof not affected thereby shall remain and continue to remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 9. This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,