

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez and
Representative Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr.

House Bill No. 4369

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The well-being of our elderly public has always been a primary concern of the State. We have recognized that they are an integral part of Philippine society, that they have and continue to contribute significantly to our economy, and deserve to be taken care of in their twilight years.

However, there is a sector of elderly members in our society that has been overlooked even if their contributions have been just as relevant and considerable. These are foreign nationals who have relocated to the Philippines and chosen our country as their second home. Some have come for commercial purposes, established their own businesses, or have settled as retirees or immigrants in the Philippines for personal or family reasons. During their stay, they have brought in considerable investments, patronized local businesses, contributed to the local economy, and in some cases have taken a role in nation building.

These foreign nationals who have taken up permanent residence in the country and have integrated into Philippine society are as much a part of our public as our own citizens. They deserve consideration for their contributions and similar treatment in their older years, and so this bill seeks to extend to them the privileges granted to the elderly under the Expanded Senior Citizens law. Moreover, through the grant of these benefits, this bill hopes to make the Philippines an even more attractive retirement destination, thereby encouraging more foreign nationals to permanently investment in our country.

Therefore, this bill seeks to grant foreign nationals residing in the Philippines who are at least 60 years of age the same privileges given to our senior citizens under the Expanded Senior Citizens law.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ


MAXIMO B. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

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AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, 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. A new section 4-A of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as "An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and For Other Purposes", is hereby added to read as follows:

"SEC. 4-A. PRIVILEGES FOR ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIENS.

- THE PRIVILEGES GRANTED TO SENIOR CITIZENS UNDER THIS ACT AND THE CONDITIONS THERETO SHALL APPLY TO ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIENS, HEREBY DEFINED AS FOREIGN NATIONALS RESIDING IN THE PHILIPPINES WHO ARE AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OF AGE.

IN AVAILING OF THESE PRIVILEGES, THE ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIEN, OR HIS/HER DULY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE, MAY SUBMIT AS PROOF OF ENTITLEMENT THERETO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) AN IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF SENIOR CITIZEN AFFAIRS (OSCA) OF THE PLACE WHERE THE ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIEN RESIDES: PROVIDED, THAT THE IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE PARTICULAR OSCA SHALL BE HONORED NATIONWIDE; (2) PHILIPPINE RETIREMENT AUTHORITY IDENTIFICATION

CARD; (3) ALIEN CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION I-CARD; (4) OTHER DOCUMENTS THAT ESTABLISH THAT THE ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIEN IS AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OF AGE AND A RESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS FURTHER PROVIDED IN THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THIS ACT.

THE TAX DEDUCTION ALLOWED TO ESTABLISHMENTS UNDER SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT AND THE CONDITIONS THERETO SHALL ALSO APPLY WHEN DISCOUNTS UNDER SUBSECTIONS 4(A) AND 4(C) ARE GRANTED TO ELDERLY RESIDENT ALIENS."

Sec. 2. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 3. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

Sec. 4. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,