

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SIXTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 721**



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Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Status confers privileges.

At least, this flows in the veins of Republic Act No. 9257 that granted additional benefits and privileges to senior citizens amending thereby Republic Act No. 7432.

By definition, a senior citizen is a resident citizen who is at least 60 years of age.

This bill more kindly looks at senior citizens as those who have worked for many years paying in taxes but would not live long enough to collect benefits.

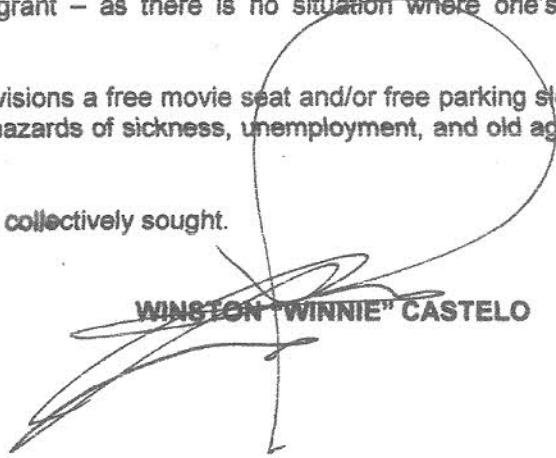
And if life expectancy is only 58 for men and 62 for women, this kind of care from the state is of minimal help, matter-of-factly.

As much as an existing law has already granted senior citizens free medical and dental as well as laboratory in hospitals and a monthly stipend of P500 to as high as P1,500 for indigents, this new proposal should not be met with resistance.

This hardly expands the privileges or benefits any larger but should be viewed as a case where no one really gains as no one really loses. In short, the zero-sum game or conflict does not apply in this grant – as there is no situation where one's gain, is somebody else's loss.

Pragmatically, this bill envisions a free movie seat and/or free parking slot as just a minute protection against the hazards of sickness, unemployment, and old age, hence this proposed measure.

The passage of this bill is collectively sought.

  
**WINSTON "WINNIE" CASTELO**

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**AN ACT**  
**GRANTING EVERY SENIOR CITIZEN FREE MOVIE SEAT AND/OR FREE PARKING**  
**SLOT IN SHOPPING MALLS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Every senior citizen is hereby granted free movie seat and/or free parking slot in shopping malls.

SEC. 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. The Department of Trade & Industry shall issue pertinent guidelines to carry out the provision of this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect sixty (60) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette and in at least four (4) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*