



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2363



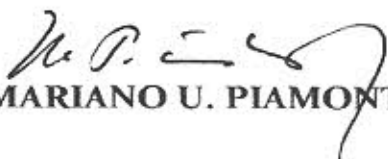
**Introduced by Honorable Mariano U. Piamonte Jr. and
Honorable Julieta R. Cortuna, Representatives, A TEACHER Party-list**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The state should be grateful to its senior citizens. For years, these ageing populace have dedicated more than half of their lives building and keeping the nation as it is. As a way of recognizing their efforts, the state should take care of them in return until the last days of their lives.

One way of expressing the governments concern for senior citizens is to task a particular agency that will oversee their welfare. If we simply add this work to an existing government body, the chances of neglect is possible. By creating an agency that is specially mandated to make sure that the welfare of senior citizens is taken cared of, everybody can expect that their mandated task can be executed.

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


MARIANO U. PIAMONTE, JR.


JULIETA R. CORTUNA



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**AN ACT
CREATING THE COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS**

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* The state should be grateful to its senior citizens. For years, these ageing populace have dedicated more than half of their lives building and keeping the nation as it is. As a way of recognizing their efforts, the state should take care of them in return until the last days of their lives.

SECTION 2. *Creation of the Senior Citizen's Welfare Council.* - A Council for the Welfare of Senior Citizens is hereby established under the Office of the President. The Council shall be composed of the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development as Chairman, and seven members, namely: The Secretary of Justice, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health, a Presiding Judge of the of the Court of Appeals to be named by the President, and two representatives of voluntary welfare associations to be appointed by the President of the Philippines, each of whom shall hold office for a term three years.

There shall be a permanent Secretariat for the Council headed by an Executive Director, to be appointed by the Chairman and approved by a majority of the members of the Council.

For actual attendance at regular meetings, the Chairman and each member of the Council shall receive a per diem of two thousand pesos for every meeting actually attended, but the total amount of per diem that the Chairman and a member may receive in a month shall in no case exceed ten thousand pesos. The amount of per diem will be subject to periodic adjustment every five years, the adjustment of which shall be proposed by the Council for approval with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

SECTION 3. *Appropriation.* - The sum of ten million pesos is hereby appropriated, out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the operation and maintenance of the Council for the Senior Citizens during the fiscal year. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its operation and maintenance shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. *Powers and Functions.* - The Council for the Welfare of Senior Citizens shall have the following powers and functions:

1. To coordinate the implementation and enforcement of all laws relative to the welfare of senior citizens;
2. To prepare, submit to the President and circulate copies of long-range programs and goals for the physical, intellectual , emotional, moral, and spiritual well being / status of senior citizens and to submit to him an annual report of the progress thereof;
3. To formulate policies and devise, introduce, develop and evaluate programs and services for the general welfare of senior citizens;
4. To call upon and utilize any department, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality, public, private or voluntary, for such assistance as it may require in the performance of its functions;
5. Perform such other functions as provided by law.

SECTION 5. *Offices to Coordinate with the Council for the Welfare of Senior Citizens.* -

The following offices and agencies shall coordinate with the Council for the Welfare of Senior Citizens in the implementation of this Act and of other laws and programs on the welfare of senior citizens:

1. Department of Justice
2. Department of Social Welfare and Development
3. Department of Labor
4. Department of Health
5. Department of Agriculture
6. Department of Interior and Local Government;
7. Local Councils/Offices for the welfare of senior citizens; and such other government and private agencies which have programs on the welfare of senior citizens.

Implementation of existing and proposed programs of the above-named agencies shall take into consideration the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* All laws or parts of any law, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,