

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3482



Introduced by Rep. CHRISTOPHER S. CO, and Rep. RODEL M. BATOCABE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

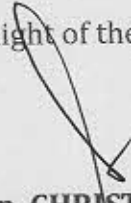
This bill seeks to create and institutionalize the Philippine Commission for Senior Citizens which shall be the primary government agency responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies, plans and programs to recognize, protect and promote the rights of senior citizens as set forth in Republic Act. 7432.

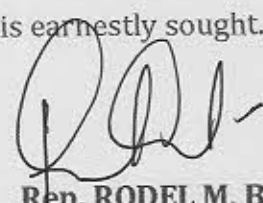
Under RA 7342, the Office for Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA) is established under the Office of the Mayor to plan programs, draw up a list of services, maintain a list of senior citizens, and service as a general information and liaison center to serve the needs of the senior citizens. Senior Citizens Associations are also established at the barangay, municipal, provincial, and regional levels. The DSWD coordinates with the OSCA and is the lead agency in promulgating the implementing rules and regulations for the law.

However, while these offices are integral in carrying out the purposes of the law, their functions are limited. The possible plans and programs are not fully maximized and privileges and rights in favor of the senior citizens are not fully exercised. They need a specialized body that will cater to the common problems of the senior citizens such as: violations of the grant and privileges to senior citizens and lack of oversight over legal and administrative problems or matters concerning senior citizens at all levels of senior citizen associations.

At present, the youth, women, and persons with disabilities have their respective commissions to cater to the administrative and legal rights of their constituents.

In light of these circumstances, the swift passage of the bill is earnestly sought.


Rep. CHRISTOPHER S. CO
Ako Bicol Party-List


Rep. RODEL M. BATOCABE
Ako Bicol Party-List

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HOUSE BILL NO. 3482

Introduced by CHRISTOPHER S. CO and RODEL M. BATOCABE

**AN ACT ABOLISHING THE NATIONAL COORDINATING AND MONITORING BOARD AND
CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING THEREFOR
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257, AS FURTHER AMENDED
BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994**

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

SECTION 1. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 11. NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS (NCSC). TO CARRY OUT THE POLICIES SET FORTH, THERE SHALL BE CREATED THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS (NCSC) WHICH SHALL BE THE PRIMARY GOVERNMENT AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES, PLANS, AND PROGRAMS TO RECOGNIZE, PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF SENIOR CITIZENS."

SECTION 2. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 12. THE COMMISSION SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM A LIST OF RECOMMENDEES SUBMITTED BY SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS"

SECTION 3. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 13. QUALIFICATIONS, TENURE, COMPENSATION. THE CHAIRPERSON AND THE SIX (6) COMMISSIONERS MUST BE NATURAL BORN CITIZENS, BONA FIDE MEMBERS OF SENIOR CITIZEN ASSOCIATIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS AS CERTIFIED BY THE ASSOCIATION OR ORGANIZATION, AT LEAST 60 YEARS OLD AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT, PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE NCSC SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS, AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO REAPPOINTMENT FOR ANOTHER TERM: PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT NO PERSON SHALL SERVE FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) TERMS. APPOINTMENT TO ANY VACANCY SHALL ONLY BE FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF THE PREDECESSOR AND IN NO CASE SHALL A MEMBER BE APPOINTED OR DESIGNATED IN A TEMPORARY OR ACTING CAPACITY: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE CHAIRPERSON AND THE COMMISSIONERS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SALARY STANDARDIZATION LAW."

SECTION 4. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 14. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE. — ANY MEMBER OF THE NSCS MAY BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE BY THE PRESIDENT, ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE OR UPON RECOMMENDATION BY ANY SENIOR CITIZENS'S ASSOCIATIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS, BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF HIS TERM FOR CAUSE AND AFTER COMPLYING WITH DUE PROCESS REQUIREMENT OF LAW."

SECTION 6. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 15. APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS. — THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT THE SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS OF THE NCSC WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT."

SECTION 7. Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 16. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS. — TO ACCOMPLISH ITS MANDATE, THE NCSC SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS, JURISDICTION AND FUNCTION:

- A) TO SERVE AS THE PRIMARY GOVERNMENT AGENCY THROUGH WHICH SENIOR CITIZENS CAN SEEK GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE AND AS THE MEDIUM, THROUGH WHICH SUCH ASSISTANCE MAY BE EXTENDED;
- B) TO REVIEW AND ASSESS THE CONDITIONS OF SENIOR CITIZENS INCLUDING EXISTING LAWS AND POLICIES PERTINENT THERETO AND TO PROPOSE RELEVANT LAWS AND POLICIES TO ADDRESS THEIR ROLE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT;
- C) TO FORMULATE AND IMPLEMENT POLICIES, PLANS, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND TO MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF;
- F) SUBJECT TO EXISTING LAWS, TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, OR ARRANGEMENT, WITH GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE AGENCIES OR ENTITIES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ATTAIN THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT, AND SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT, TO OBTAIN LOANS FROM GOVERNMENT LENDING INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER LENDING INSTITUTIONS TO FINANCE ITS PROGRAMS;
- G) TO NEGOTIATE FOR FUNDS AND TO ACCEPT GRANTS, DONATIONS, GIFTS AND/OR PROPERTIES IN WHATEVER FORM AND FROM WHATEVER SOURCE, LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, FOR THE BENEFIT OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND ADMINISTER THE SAME IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS THEREOF; OR IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY CONDITION, IN SUCH MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE INTEREST OF SENIOR CITIZENS AS WELL AS EXISTING LAWS;
- H) TO COORDINATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND TO OVERSEE THE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF;

- I) TO CONVENE PERIODIC CONVENTIONS OR ASSEMBLIES OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO REVIEW, ASSESS AS WELL AS PROPOSE POLICIES OR PLANS;
- J) PREPARE YEARLY ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, CONGRESS, AND THE CONCERNED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS;
- K) TO SUBMIT TO CONGRESS APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS INTENDED TO CARRY OUT THE POLICIES UNDER THIS ACT;
- L) TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT THE APPROPRIATE BUDGET TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT;
- O) TO PROMULGATE THE NECESSARY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT;
- P) TO EXERCISE SUCH OTHER POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE DIRECTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES; AND
- Q) TO REPRESENT THE PHILIPPINE SENIOR CITIZENS IN ALL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS DEALING WITH SENIOR CITIZENS AND OTHER RELATED CONCERNS."

SECTION 7. Section 17 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the "ExPanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 17. *REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS.* THERE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN ALL REGIONS A REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS WITH SIMILAR MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS AS THE NATIONAL COMMISSION. AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE, SIMILAR BODIES SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS."

SECTION 8. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations or part thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. Should any provision of this Act be found unconstitutional by a court of law, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of this Act, and such action shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Act.

SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED.