

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
House of Representatives
Quezon City

16th Congress
3rd Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6248**



Introduced by Congressman Alfredo D. Vargas III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Senior citizens comprise nearly seven percent of the total Filipino population with their number currently estimated at 6.263 million¹. It is predicted that over time, the percentage of the elderly population in relation to the total population of the country might rise to 10%².

The Philippine government recognizes the role of the elderly in nation building and continues to maximize their contribution to development through Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by RA 9994, otherwise known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act. While this statute grants several benefits and special privileges to senior citizens, more needs to be done to show their importance to us and our appreciation to them.

This bill³ seeks to provide additional benefits and privileges to the Filipino elderly. For one, this proposed legislation exempts them from the Unified Vehicular Volume Reduction Program or the number coding scheme implemented by the Government. This also exempts them from paying parking fees in all establishments. Through this initiative, we are providing our senior citizens simple economical benefits to reward their contributions to our country's development.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly urged.


ALFREDO D. VARGAS III

¹ 2010 Census of Population and Housing

² Evangelista, Rafael. (2015) *Time for senior citizens to fight for our rights*. Rappler. Available at: <http://www.rappler.com/move-ph/ispeak/106840-ph-senior-citizens-rights> [28 October 2015]

³ The constituent panel on Senior Citizens proposed this policy when this representation conducted the consultative program, *Lehislatibong Ugnayan ng Kongreso at mga Simbahan*.

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AN ACT

EXEMPTING SENIOR CITIZENS FROM THE UNIFIED VEHICULAR VOLUME REDUCTION PROGRAM AND FROM PAYING PARKING FEES IN ALL ESTABLISHMENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010

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

SECTION 1. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further amended by inserting the following provision after Subsection (l) to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. Privileges for the Senior Citizens. – The senior citizens shall be entitled to the following:

XXX

(l) EXEMPTION FROM THE UNIFIED VEHICULAR VOLUME REDUCTION PROGRAM OR NUMBER CODING SCHEME OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR VEHICLES WHERE A SENIOR CITIZEN IS EITHER THE DRIVER OR THE PASSENGER.

(m) FREE PARKING IN ALL ESTABLISHMENTS FOR VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN

(n) XXX

SEC. 2. The relevant government agencies shall draft the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. Effectivity. – 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,