

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **7051**



Introduced by **HONORABLE SCOTT DAVIES S. LANETE, M.D.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Senior citizens are considered to be in the twilight of their lives. Luckily for Filipinos, society places a premium in providing care and protection for parents and elderly. This premium is readily observable in the various laws that accorded benefits and privileges to senior citizens. These laws include Republic Act No. 7432, Republic Act No. 9257 and Republic Act No. 9994.

As provided in the 1987 Constitution, it is the declared policy of the State to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women and children. Article XV, Section 4 of the Constitution further declares that it is the duty of the family to take care of its elderly members while the State may design programs of social security for them.

Therefore, consistent with these constitutional principles, this bill seeks to expand the current benefits and privileges available to senior citizens. It aims to make their lives more comfortable by exempting senior citizens from the Unified Vehicular Volume Reduction Program and entitling them to free parking fees and free legal assistance and representation from the Public Attorney's Office irrespective of wealth.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, belonging to Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D.

SCOTT DAVIES S. LANETE, M.D.

Representative

Third District, Province of Masbate

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House Bill No. **7051**

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**AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO
SENIOR CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO.
9994, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "*Expanded Senior
Citizens Act of 2010*"**

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

Section 1. Title. - This Act Shall be known as the "*Expanded Senior Citizens
Act of 2018.*"

Section 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act
No. 9257 and Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the "Expanded
Senior Citizens Act of 2003", is hereby further amended to read as follows:

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

XXX

(m) Exemption from the Unified Vehicular Volume Reduction Program (UVVRP), commonly called number coding or color coding for private vehicles boarded by a senior citizen, irrespective of ownership and vehicles registered under the name of a senior citizen, whether the owner senior citizen is a passenger. For this purpose, the Department of Transportation shall implement mechanisms such as issuance of stickers and/or special plates.

(n) Exemption from parking fees in all establishments.

(o) Free legal assistance and representation from the public attorney's office, irrespective of income and wealth."

Section 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation to carry out the objectives of this Act, in consultation with the Department of Trade and Industry and Department of Justice.

Section 4. *Repealing Clause.* - All law, executive orders, rules and regulations or any part hereof inconsistent herewith are deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. *Separability Clause.* - If any part or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional and invalid, such declaration shall not invalidate other parts thereof which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved.