

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2023



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED VARGAS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Upon this Representation's consultation with the Senior Citizens sector in the District, one of the issues that emerged was the inadequate funding for programs, projects and activities (PPAs) that will benefit their sector.

The National Government directs all local government units to allocate at least percent (1%) of their Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) to programs, projects and activities proportionately divided among senior citizens and persons with disability (PWDs).

Recognizing the role of senior citizens and PWDs in developing a strong Filipino nation, this bill mandates LGUs to earmark 1% of their IRA shares for the PPAs for the elderly and a separate 1% for the PWDs. These PPAs include medical and dental services, fitness and wellness, social services, livelihood and employment, legal assistance, and recreation.

Through this, the State will be able to provide sufficient monetary support for the PPAs that shall address the necessities of senior citizens and PWDs. Approximately 6.263 million senior citizens and 1.442 million PWDs are expected to benefit from this proposed legislation.

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


ALFRED VARGAS

1st reading: 2/24/2020

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MANDATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO ALLOCATE ONE PERCENT (1%) OF THEIR INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT (IRA) FOR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND 1% OF IRA FOR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy* – The State recognizes the role of senior citizens and persons with disabilities in nation-building and community development. Thus, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to provide senior citizens and PWDs with programs, projects and activities that will effectively address their needs.

SECTION 2. *Definition of Terms* – For purposes of this Act, these terms are defined as follows:

- (a) Senior citizens or elderly refers to any resident of the Philippines who are at least sixty (60) years old.
- (b) Persons with disabilities (PWDs) refers to those suffering from restriction or different abilities, as a result of a mental, physical or sensory impairment, to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered for a normal human being.

SECTION 3. *Funding* – All local government units (LGUs) are hereby mandated to allocate 1% of their Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) for programs, projects and activities that will benefit senior citizens.

Likewise, all LGUs are directed to appropriate 1% of their IRA for programs, projects and activities for PWDs.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* – Within sixty days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, in coordination with the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development, shall issue such rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. *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.

SECTION 6. *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,