



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3326



Introduced by Representative Jefferson F. Khonghun

AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO SENIOR CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This legislation aims to expand our senior citizens' rights and privileges insofar as pension is concerned, thereby maximizing the benefits that they should lawfully receive.

Republic Act (RA) No. 7432 also known as An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for other purposes, is a law enacted in 1992 and is one of our legislative body's earliest approaches in complying with the Constitution's mandate of taking care of its elderly members. This law was followed by RA No. 9257: the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003, which granted additional benefits and privileges to senior citizens, hence, the amending the former law. At the latest, Republic Act No. 9994: the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010 was enacted to further amended provisions of RA 7432.

Now, the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010 introduced amendments that are comprehensive enough to fill in most of the gaps of the old law, and is sufficient to address the needs of the elderly members of our community. Nevertheless, RA No. 9994 should be reviewed with the primary objective of providing a more responsive and accountable structure in favor of our senior citizens.

The purpose of this bill is to expound on the laws and provisions, as well as rules and regulations governing the pensions awarded to our senior citizens. It seeks to increase the amount provided to them in avoidance of unwarranted stress over needs that demand expenses, especially that of their health and wellness. This bill shall tap into both public and private agencies and instrumentalities that award these pensions in order to devise more means and methods of providing their recipients the service that they deserve, thus taking advantage the technologies and computer programs of today. Moreover, this bill shall see to it that the applications of our senior citizens in the awarding their respective pensions shall be made at the earliest opportunity.

Time and again, we Filipinos are taught to respect our elders, for they have raised us to be the people we are today. This bill, when passed into law, shall serve as our token of gratitude for their unconditional love and guidance.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



JEFFERSON F. KHONGHUN
1st District of Zambales

**AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO
SENIOR CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS
AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE
CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT
BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as “Expanded Rights,
Benefits, and Pension of Senior Citizens Act”.

SECTION 2. *Declaration of State Policy.* – The State provides that the
family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the State may also do
so through just programs of social security. The continued care, safety and
welfare of senior citizens is a responsibility shared by the family and the State.
In furtherance of health and wellness of its citizens, the State shall adopt an
integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall
endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available
to all the people at affordable cost, giving priority to the elderly and the
underprivileged.

SECTION 3. Section 4 (a), (c), and (l) of Republic Act No. 7432, as
amended by Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the “Expanded Senior
Citizens Act of 2010”, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. Privileges for the Senior Citizens. –

The senior citizens shall be entitled to the following:

- (a) The grant of the twenty-five percent (25%) discount and exemption from
the value-added tax (VAT), if applicable, on the sale of the following
goods and services from all establishments, for the exclusive use and

(h) Additional Government Assistance

(1) Social Pension

Indigent senior citizens shall be entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to One thousand pesos (Php1,000.00) to augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens, subject to a review every two (2) years by Congress, in consultation with the DSWD.

SECTION 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DSWD shall formulate and adopt amendments to the existing rules and regulations implementing Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No. 9994, to carry out the objectives of this Act, in consultation with the Department of Finance, the Department of Tourism, the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), the DOLE, the DOJ, the DOH, the DILG, the DTI, the DOTC, the NEDA, the DepED, the TESDA, the CHED, and five (5) NGOs or POs for the senior citizens duly accredited by the DSWD.

SECTION 6. *Funding Source.* – The Necessary appropriations for the operation and maintenance of the OSCA shall be appropriated and approved by the LGUs concerned. For national government agencies, the requirements to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in their respective budgets: *Provided*, That the funds to be used for the national health program and for the vaccination of senior citizens in the first year of the DOH and thereafter, as a line item under the under the DOH budget in the subsequent General Appropriations Act (GAA): *Provided, further*, That the monthly social pension for indigent senior citizens in the first year of implementation shall be added to the regular appropriations of the DSWD budget in the subsequent GAA.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All law, executive orders, rules and regulations or any part hereof inconsistent herewith are deemed repealed or

1 modified accordingly.

2
3 **SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.*** - If any part or provision of this Act
4 shall be declared unconstitutional and invalid, such declaration shall not
5 invalidate other parts thereof which shall remain in full force and effect.
6

7 **SECTION 9. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
8 following the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in
9 newspaper of general circulation.
10

11 Approved,