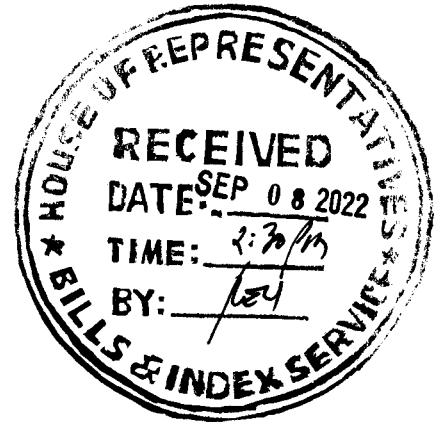


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Congress of the Philippines  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

House Bill No. **4589**



Introduced by **Hon. Mary Mitzi Lim Cajayon-Uy**

**AN ACT**  
**PROVIDING FOR PRE-CENTENARIAN GIFTS TO QUALIFIED FILIPINOS,**  
**AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10868 OTHERWISE**  
**KNOWN AS THE "CENTENARIANS ACT OF 2016."**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Taking care of our *lolas* and *lolos* is deeply rooted in the Filipino family culture. The Constitution affirms this as it mandates the family to take care of its elderly members alongside the State through its programs of social security.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant thereto, on 23 June 2016, President Benigno S. Aquino III signed into law Republic Act No. 10868, otherwise known as the "Centenarians Act of 2016". The law honors and awards Filipino centenarians or those who reach one hundred years old through a letter of felicitation from the President and a centenarian gift of one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00).

Indeed, becoming a centenarian is a marvel of life. However, reaching the age of at least seventy-five (75) is no less a milestone. In fact, on July 2022, the Philippine Statistics Authority, in its National QuickStat file, reported that only 4.7% Filipinos in 2015 are sixty-five (65) years old or older. Furthermore, in 2020, the current life span for Filipino females is 74.3 years, and even lower for Filipino males at 68.8 years. Thus, this bill aims to celebrate this milestone for our elderly citizens by giving out "pre-centenarian gifts" or cash gifts in the amount of ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) to those who reach the age of seventy-five (75) years old, and every five years thereafter. It is only but a little appreciation to our Filipino citizens that comprise our living history and contributed much to our national wealth.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of the bill is earnestly sought.

  
**MARY MITZI CAJAYON-UY**  
*Representative*  
2<sup>nd</sup> District, Caloocan City

<sup>1</sup> 1987 Constitution, Article XV, Section 4.

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

**SECTION 1.** Sec. 2 of R.A. No. 10868 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 2. *Letter of Felicitation and Cash Gift.* — All Filipinos who reach the age of hundred (100) years old, whether residing in the Philippines or abroad, shall be honored with:

*Xxxx*

*PROVIDED*, THAT FILIPINOS WHO REACH THE AGE OF SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS (75) OLD SHALL ALREADY BE GIVEN A CASH GIFT IN THE AMOUNT OF TEN THOUSAND PESOS (PHP10,000.00) AS A PRE-CENTENARIAN GIFT, *PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT TEN THOUSAND PESOS (PHP10,000.00) SHALL BE GIVEN EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS SINCE TURNING SEVENTY-FIVE (75) YEARS OLD, *PROVIDED FURTHER*, UPON EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, THAT THE PRE-CENTENARIAN GIFTS SHALL RETROACT FOR FILIPINOS WHOSE AGES ARE BEYOND SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS OLD BUT BELOW ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD, *PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT UPON REACHING ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD, THE CENTENARIAN SHALL RECEIVE THE REMAINING CENTENARIAN GIFT AMOUNTING TO FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (PHP50,000.00).”

**SECTION 2.** The Secretaries of Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Health, the Department of Migrant Workers, and the Department of

Interior and Local Government shall promulgate the necessary guidelines for and shall take the lead in the implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.*** Section 2 of R.A. No. 10868, other laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules or regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least one (1) national newspaper of general circulation, whichever date comes earlier.

Approved,