

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5277



Introduced by Hon. MARVIN C. RILLO
Representative, Fourth District, Quezon City

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Respect for the elderly has always been the mark of Asian societies like the Philippines. Our culture has put a high premium on preserving the dignity of our older person and put them in an exalted place in society. The significant customs and traditions were kept and passed by them to younger generations. Thus, their enormous addition in the growth and enhancement of the country's institutions such as government, family, education, and religion cannot be ignored.

Recognizing the remarkable contribution of the elderly as well as the policy decree of the State under the *1987 Constitution* to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life. Further, in *Article II, Sections 10 and 11*, it is declared that the State shall provide social justice in all phases of national development and that the State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights. It is also then provided under sec 11 of Article XIII that the Sate 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. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women and children.

Pursuant to *Sec. 4 of Article XV of the 1987 Constitution* 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 latter has promulgated rules and enacted laws in the attainment of this purpose. One of which is the *Republic Act No. 7432* or an Act to Maximize The Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and Other Purposes. These policies aim to establish a mechanism whereby the contribution of the senior citizens is maximized; adopt measures whereby our senior citizens are assisted and appreciated by the community as a whole; and establish a program beneficial to the senior citizens, their families and the rest of the community that they serve.

In lieu of the foregoing, this representation hereby submits the passage of this bill to yield a more comprehensive and holistic approach in extending to the senior citizens the rights and privileges provided by law.

On behalf of the people of the Fourth District of Quezon City, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.



MARVIN C. RILLO
Representative
4th District, Quezon City

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Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MARVIN C. RILLO

“AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO SENIOR CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 4 OF R.A 7432, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDINGS, GRANTS BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES”

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

SECTION 1. Section 4(a) (5) of Republic Act (RA) No. 7432, as amended by RA 9994, 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) xxxxx xxx xxxxx

(5) in actual fare for land transportation travel in public utility buses (PUBs), public utility jeepneys (PUJs), taxis, Asian utility vehicles (AUVs), shuttle services, **SKYWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS WHOSE TOLL FEES OF WHICH ARE PAID THROUGH THE RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION DEVICES (RFID) OR SIMILAR SYSTEMS** and public railways, including Light Rail Transit (LRT), Mass Rail Transit (MRT), and Philippine National Railways (PNR); and public railways, including light Rail Transit (LRT), Metro Rail Transit (MRT) and Philippine National Railways (PNR).

IN THE AVAILMENT OF THIS PRIVILEGE, THE VEHICLE MUST BE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN AND THE LATTER SHALL PRESENT AND SUBMIT A COPY OF HIS SENIOR CITIZEN IDENTIFICATION CARD TO THE TOLL OPERATOR WHEN APPLYING FOR RFID. THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND. COMMUNICATIONS (DOTC), LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT. AUTHORITY (LRTA), PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS (PNR), TOLL REGULATORY BOARD (TRB) AND LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD (LTFRB) SHALL ISSUE CORRESPONDING CIRCULARS OR

DIRECTIVES TO THE PUBLIC LAND TRANSPORT SECTOR FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE RULES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE HEREWITH, AS WELL AS REQUIREMENTS TO THESE OPERATORS TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ON THE BENEFITS OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN BY POSTERS, HANDBILLS OR PAMPHLETS ON BOARD THEIR VEHICLES”

SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any part, section or provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of 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 a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.



MARVIN C. RILLO
Representative
4th District, Quezon City