

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8981



Introduced by HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING

AN ACT
INCREASING THE DISCOUNT RATE AND EXEMPTING FROM THE VALUE
ADDED TAX THE MONTHLY ELECTRIC AND WATER CONSUMPTION
GRANTED TO SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “EXPANDED
SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010”

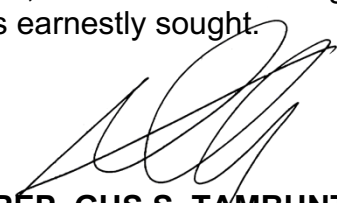
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Commission on Population and Development (Popcom), citing recent data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), said the percentage of Filipino elderly in the population has expanded in the last two decades, rising to 8.5 percent in 2020 from 5.9 percent in 2000. We are already an aging population. Popcom projects that 14 percent of the population 12 years from now will be senior citizens from the current 8.5 percent.

The biggest problem of our aging population is the inability to live well. The number of indigent seniors receiving a social pension of P1,000 a month from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is at 4.1 million, which already represents about a third of the total number of Filipino senior citizens today. Many of the indigent seniors survive by living with their children, and “earn their keep” by taking care of the house and their grandchildren.

Many seniors well into their 70s are still productive. To help our senior citizens, we must enact laws like the proposed measure to ease their burdens.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City’s Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. GUS S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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

SECTION 1. Section 4(c) of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

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

x x x

(c) the grant of a minimum of TEN PERCENT (10%) discount relative to the monthly utilization of water and electricity supplied by the public utilities AND EXEMPTION FROM THE VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT); *Provided*, That the individual meters for the foregoing utilities are registered in the name of the senior citizen residing therein; *Provided*, further, That the monthly consumption does not exceed ONE HUNDRED FIFTY KILOWATT HOURS (150 kWh) of electricity and FIFTY CUBIC METERS (50m³) of water; *Provided, furthermore*, That the privilege is granted per household regardless of the number of senior citizens residing therein AND THE REGISTERED SENIOR CITIZEN CONTINUES TO LIVE WITHIN THE HOUSEHOL ADDRESS;

SECTION 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.* Within thirty (30) days after the effectivity of this Act, the National Commission of Senior Citizens shall, in consultation with the Energy Regulatory Commission, Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System and other concerned utility regulatory agencies, as well as national organizations of senior citizens, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 3. *Separability Cause.* If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Cause.* All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations and/or administrative regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified, superseded or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Approved,