



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11264



Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NURSING HOME FOR HOMELESS AND ABANDONED
SENIOR CITIZENS IN EVERY CITY OR MUNICIPALITY IN THE PHILIPPINES,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

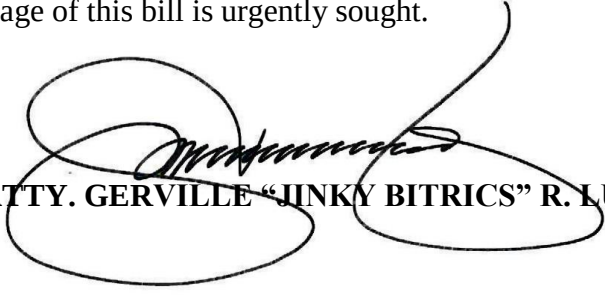
Elderly abandonment in the Philippines, a country known for its cultural characteristic of strong family ties, is a growing yet often overlooked issue. Despite the cultural emphasis on familial care, reports of neglected elderly are quietly increasing. The lack of numbers and studies on homelessness and abandonment of elderly are just as concerning, as this reflects the invisibility of issue to society.

Currently, the care for abandoned elderly individuals is largely shouldered by private and religious institutions, which may lack the resources and capacity to meet the increasing demand for elder care.

The issue also stems from various factors, including the rising cost of living, inadequate health insurance coverage, and the increasingly demanding schedules of family members. These challenges leave many elderly individuals without the support and care they need.

To address this, the proposed bill seeks to establish government-operated nursing homes in every city and municipality across the Philippines. Managed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), these facilities will provide comprehensive care for the elderly, ensuring their well-being, dignity, and access to essential services. This initiative reflects the government’s commitment to addressing the needs of an aging population and protecting its most vulnerable citizens.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is urgently sought.



HON. ATTY. GERVILLE "JINKY BITRICS" R. LUISTRO



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11264

Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NURSING HOME FOR HOMELESS AND ABANDONED
SENIOR CITIZENS IN EVERY CITY OR MUNICIPALITY IN THE PHILIPPINES,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, 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 the "Caring Homes for Uncared for Elders Act".

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to value the dignity of every human person, guarantee full respect for human rights, extend assistance to its elderly citizens through programs of social security, and promote the right to health and safety of senior citizens. Towards this end, the State shall extend assistance to abandoned and homeless senior citizens through a social care and security program.

Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- a. Elderly refers to any resident citizen of the Philippines at least fifty (50) years of age.
- b. Abandoned Elderly refers to a senior citizen who has been deserted, permanently or temporarily, by his relatives or persons who have general or legal responsibility over the elderly, and/or from whom all basic care has been withdrawn, whether willfully or not;

- c. Homeless Elderly refers to an elderly who lacks a fixed, regular residence, or whose current residence is unfit for human habitation, or lacks resources to obtain proper housing;
- d. Elderly Care Homes refers to a home for the aged, established and maintained under this Act by a city or municipality which provides living accommodations, food and clothing, medical and health care, and recreational and social interaction activities for abandoned senior citizens or homeless senior citizens;

Sec. 4. *Establishment of Elderly Care Homes.* - There shall be established in every municipality and city, an elderly care home to serve abandoned elderly and homeless elderly, to be built by the local government units (LGUs) concerned and shall be operated and maintained by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in coordination with the LGUs concerned.

Sec. 5. *Functions of Elderly Care Homes.* - The nursing homes shall provide homeless elderly or abandoned elderly within its territorial jurisdiction institutionalized residential care programs and services such as but not limited to:

- a) Comfortable living quarters;
- b) Adequate food and clothing;
- c) Medical consultation or treatment;
- d) Health care;
- e) Occupational opportunities;
- f) Recreational and social interaction activities;
- g) Counselling;
- h) Case conference;
- i) Family dialogue;
- j) Outreach to existing family for reintegration;
- k) Literacy education;
- l) Productivity development; and
- m) Religious, cultural and vocational activities.

Sec. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The DSWD, in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Health and the Federation of Senior Citizens Associations of the Philippines, and Confederation of Older Persons Associations of the Philippines, shall hereby promulgate the rules and regulations to carry out the provisions this Act, including staffing guidelines and qualifications, not later than ninety (90) days after its effectivity.

Sec. 7. *Exemptions of the Elderly Care Home.* - The established care home shall be exempted from the payment of customs duties, taxes, and tariffs on the importation of equipment and supplies used actually, directly, and exclusively by the elderly care home pursuant to this Act, including those donated to the *elderly care home*.

Sec. 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and every year thereafter.

Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national papers of general circulation.

Approved,