

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

**TWENTIETH (20th) CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 360



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**Introduced by HONORABLE LORETO “AMBEN” S. AMANTE**  
Third (3rd) Legislative District, Province of Laguna

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**AN ACT GRANTING BENEFITS TO FILIPINO SEPTUAGENARIANS,  
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11982  
WHICH AMENDED REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10868 OR THE  
“CENTENARIANS ACT OF 2016”, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Explanatory Note*

With the passage of Republic Act No. 11982 on February 26, 2024 which granted benefits to Filipino Octogenarians and Nonagenarians, aside from Filipino Centenarians receiving commensurate benefits by virtue of Republic Act No. 10868, otherwise known as the “Centenarians Act of 2016”, it emphatically illuminated our deeply embedded Filipino culture of high respect and profound care for our elders.

Regrettably, as we face the emerging demographic reality of ageing, several studies have shown that the increasing number of elderly population of our society necessitates accelerated and broaden interventions to ensure adequate social security favorable to such vulnerable sector in terms of financial support, at the very least.

While the Act sought to be amended herein, as well as its precursor, are primarily contemplated to honor or pay tribute to our elders for longevity, the present Bill shall further strengthen our Constitutional commitment to provide our senior citizens with adequate social services and improved quality of life inasmuch as their current stage of life needs the most of the blessings of the law.

Parenthetically, it must be highlighted that during biblical times, age seventy (70) was considered as man’s average lifespan and that life beyond seventy (70) was already a fringe benefit. In parallel, various studies likewise shown that the country’s life expectancy range, at present time, is at an alarming state whereby available data evinced that an average Filipino residing in the country has a lifespan of only 69.3 years<sup>1</sup> or 71.23 years<sup>2</sup>. At such age thus, it may be safely envisioned that most of our elders are already enduring certain health issues or economic hardships, to name a few.

It is in this light that the undersigned intends to amend the prevailing law, *i.e.*, for the sheer purpose of amplifying the benefits of the law in favor of other age brackets. And thus bearing witness to the immemorial aphorism, in the vernacular, that “*Huli man daw at magaling ay naihabol din*”.

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.who.int/gho/countries/phl/en/>;

<sup>2</sup> [datacatalog.worldbank.org](http://datacatalog.worldbank.org); <https://knoema.com/atlas/Philippines/topics/Demographics/Age/Life-expectancy-at-birth>;

Evidently, the scheduled amounts in the proposed Bill would not endure throughout the next availment, given the 5-year gap for every prescribed monetary benefit, but the noble value of which, most especially to the ailing or underprivileged sector of our elderly population, would be worthy enough to augment their pecuniary or medical needs. Stated differently, it may not be sufficiently enough, but clearly an apparent step of determined assertion that the Government cares.

Foregoing premises considered, the approval of this proposed measure is hereby most solemnly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'L' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

**LORETO "AMBEN" S. AMANTE**

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Republic Act No. 11982 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10868, otherwise known as the “Centenarians Act of 2016”, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 2. *Letter of Felicitation and Cash Gift.*- All Filipinos, whether residing in the Philippines or abroad, upon reaching the age of one hundred (100) years old, shall receive a cash gift of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) and a Letter of Felicitation from the President of the Philippines congratulating the celebrant for his or her longevity.

All Filipinos, whether residing in the Philippines or abroad, upon reaching the ages of **SEVENTY (70), SEVENTY-FIVE (75)**, eighty (80), eighty-five (85), ninety (90) and ninety-five (95), shall each receive a cash gift of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00).

The grantees under this section shall be eligible to receive the cash gift within one (1) year from reaching the ages of **SEVENTY (70), SEVENTY-FIVE (75)**, eighty (80), eighty-five (85), ninety (90), ninety-five (95) and one hundred (100).”

**SECTION 2. Appropriations.**— The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**SECTION 3. *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.

**SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules or regulations and other issuances, or parts thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.