



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3439



Introduced by Representative Crispin Diego “Ping” D. Remulla

AN ACT
REQUIRING LAND, AIR, AND SEA TRANSPORT PROVIDERS TO PROVIDE
PRIORITY SEATING FOR THE ELDERLY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THIS
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257
AND 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT
OF 2010”

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As the population in the country ages, it becomes imperative to address the unique challenges faced by senior citizens, particularly in accessing safe and comfortable transportation.

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, their recent data that is published in 2020, stated that there were approximately more than 9 million senior citizens in the country. This growing demographic often encounters difficulties when commuting and when using public transportation, such as the lack of priority seating. These challenges not only cause discomfort but also pose potential health risks, especially for those with limited mobility and pre-existing conditions.

Although there are existing laws that have granted various benefits to senior citizens, a gap remains in ensuring their comfort and safety during travel. This measure seeks to address this by mandating transport operators of land, sea, and air to consistently allocate priority seating for the elderly.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Remulla', with a stylized, cursive script.

CRISPIN DIEGO "PING" D. REMULLA



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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “*Priority Seating for the*
2 *Elderly Act*”.

3 **SEC. 2.** Section 5 (f) of Republic Act No. 7432 is hereby further amended to read as
4 follows:

5 “SEC. 5. *Government Assistance.*– x x x

6 “(a) Employment

7 “x x x

8 “(f) **PRIORITY SEATING FOR THE ELDERLY- ALL**
9 **PUBLIC UTILITIY VEHICLES (PUV), PUBLIC UTILITY**
10 **BUSES (PUBS), RAIL TRANSPORT PROVIDERS, AND AIR**
11 **AND SEA TRANSPORT PROVIDERS, SHALL RESERVE**
12 **AND DESIGNATE THE BEST POSSIBLE SEATS FOR**
13 **SENIOR CITIZENS AS DETERMINED BY THE**
14 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTR), IN**
15 **COORDINATION WITH THE LAND TRANSPORTATION**

1 FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD (LTFRB),
2 THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY (MARINA),
3 THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE
4 PHILIPPINES (CAAP), AND ADMINSTRATIVE
5 SANCTIONS SUCH AS SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION
6 OF THEIR FRANCHISE;

7 "ANY RAIL TRANSPORT OPERATOR WHO FAILS
8 TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 5(F) THIS ACT SHALL,
9 UPON CONVICTION, BE IMPRISONED FOR FIVE (5)
10 MONTHS TO TWO (2) YEARS OR PAY A FINE OF THIRTY
11 THOUSAND PESOS (P30,000.00) TO FIFTY THOUSAND
12 PESOS (P50,000.00);

13 "ANY COMMERCIAL AIR OR SEA TRANSPORT
14 PROVIDER WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH SECTION
15 5(F) THIS ACT SHALL, UPON CONVECTION', BE
16 IMPRISONED FOR FIVE (5) TO TEN (10) YEARS OR PAY
17 A FINE OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS
18 (P100,000.00) TO FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS
19 (P500,000.00).

20 "X X X."

21 **SEC. 3. Appropriations.** – Such funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act
22 shall be included in annual General Appropriations Act.

23 **SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The DOTR, in coordination with the
24 LTFRB, MARINA, CAAP, and three (3) representatives from reputable and concerned civil
25 society organizations, as determined by the DOTR, shall promulgate the implementing rules
26 and regulations of this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

27 **SEC. 5. Separability Clause.** – If any part, section or provision of this Act is held
28 invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and
29 effect.

30 **SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules
31 and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions
32 of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

33 **Sec. 7. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
34 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,