

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3858



Introduced by Representative Maria Cristina C. Angeles

Explanatory Note

The 1987 Philippine Constitution recognizes the family as the foundation of the nation and mandates the State to strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development.

Section 12, Article II provides that: "The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution."

Section 1, Article XV further affirms that: "The State recognizes the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation. Accordingly, it shall strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development."

Likewise, Section 2, Article XV states: "Marriage, as an inviolable social institution, is the foundation of the family and shall be protected by the State."

Marriage is a lifelong commitment that demands mutual love, respect, and perseverance. Reaching fifty (50) years of marital union—commonly referred to as the Golden Wedding Anniversary—is not only a personal milestone for the couple but also a testament to the strength of the family as a cornerstone of Philippine society. Such enduring unions foster social stability, provide moral guidance, and serve as living examples to younger generations.

This bill seeks to institutionalize a one-time cash incentive, along with a commemorative plaque and a congratulatory letter from the President, to honor couples who have reached this significant milestone. It is a modest but meaningful gesture from the State to recognize and celebrate the enduring love, loyalty, and perseverance of Filipino couples whose lifelong commitment

strengthens

the

nation.

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


MARIA CRISTINA C. ANGELES
Second District of Tarlac

AN ACT

GRANTING INCENTIVES TO COUPLES WHO HAVE COLLABORATED
TOWARD THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY, PROVIDING FURTHER
PENALTIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Article II, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social organization";

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article IX of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that "The State recognizes the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation. Accordingly, it shall strengthen its solidarity and shall protect and promote its development";

WHEREAS, Section 2, Article XV of the same Constitution provides that "Marriage, as an inviolable social institution, is the foundation of the family and shall be protected by the State";

WHEREAS, the celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary is a significant milestone in the life of a couple, and the successful preservation of the family unit, which serves as the backbone of the community and nation, is a commendable achievement;

WHEREAS, it is but fitting that the State honor such couples who have spent half a century in wedded bliss, and the successful preservation of the family unit, which serves as the backbone of the community and nation, is a commendable achievement;

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House Bill No. 3858

Introduced by Representative Maria Cristina C. Angeles

AN ACT
GRANTING INCENTIVES TO COUPLES WHO HAVE CELEBRATED
THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Section 12, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution";

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that "The State recognizes the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation. Accordingly, it shall strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development";

WHEREAS, Section 2, Article XV of the same Constitution provides that "Marriage, as an inviolable social institution, is the foundation of the family and shall be protected by the State";

WHEREAS, the celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary symbolizes enduring love, commitment, and the successful preservation of the family unit, which serves as an inspiration to the community and future generations;

WHEREAS, it is but fitting that the State honor such couples whose long-standing union exemplifies marital stability and strengthens societal values;

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 "Golden Wedding Anniversary Incentive Act."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.

It is hereby declared the policy of the State to honor and recognize the invaluable contribution of strong and enduring marriages in fostering family unity, moral values, and social stability. In line with this policy, the State shall grant incentives to couples who have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

SEC. 3. Incentive.

Eligible couples who have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary shall be entitled to the following:

1. A one-time cash incentive of Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00);
2. A Golden Wedding Commemorative Plaque bearing the seal of the Republic of the Philippines; and
3. A congratulatory letter from the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

SEC. 4. Eligibility.

The incentive shall be granted to couples who:

1. Are Filipino citizens, both of whom are actual residents of the Philippines at the time of application;
2. Have been legally married for at least fifty (50) continuous years, as evidenced by an authenticated marriage certificate issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) or other competent authority; and;
3. Have not received a similar incentive from any other national government program.

SEC. 5. Application Procedure.

Eligible couples shall file their application with the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) or its designated field offices, which shall verify and endorse qualified applicants to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) for processing of the cash incentive and issuance of the plaque and congratulatory letter.

SEC. 6. Funding.

The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act under the budget of the DSWD.

SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.

Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DSWD, in coordination with the PSA and the National Commission on Senior Citizens (NCSC), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause.

If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Repealing Clause.

All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, and administrative regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. Effectivity.

This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,