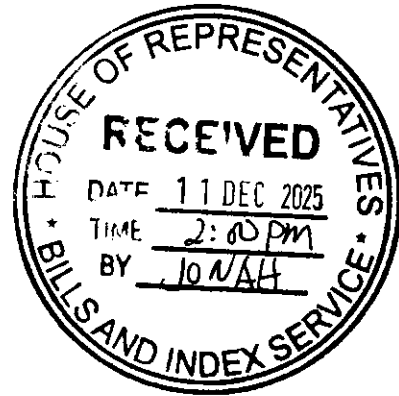




Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress  
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. **6794**

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**Introduced by Representative John Geesnell “Baba” Yap**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to grant an additional birthday cash benefit to senior citizens, amending for the purpose Republic Act (RA) No. 7432, as amended, entitled “*An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for Other Purposes.*”

RA 7432 was enacted in 1992 in recognition of the invaluable contribution of senior citizens to our society. The law has undergone several amendments since then, and RA 9994, otherwise known as the *Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010*, and other related laws were enacted to institutionalize various benefits for senior citizens to further acknowledge their value to nation-building and ensure their welfare. However, while these laws provide for discounts, social pensions, and other privileges, there remains a need for localized, direct, and timely assistance that can be felt by our elderly citizens in a personal and meaningful way.

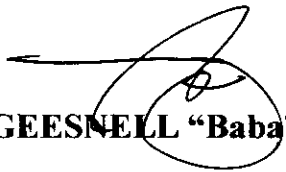
The birthday cash benefit provided under this proposed measure amounts to a minimum of Five hundred pesos (P500.00) to be released within sixty (60) days after the senior citizen’s birthday. This modest amount can help augment their daily needs, purchase essential goods, or simply allow them to celebrate their special day with dignity.

The funding for this benefit shall be initially sourced from the local government unit (LGU) where the senior citizen is registered, and eventually included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Moreover, the measure ensures that LGUs already providing a birthday cash benefit lower than the minimum specified amount of Five hundred pesos (P500.00) shall adjust their programs to meet the mandated amount, while those providing more than P500.00 shall not reduce the existing benefit. This guarantees that no senior citizen will be disadvantaged by the passage of this Act.

By institutionalizing this birthday cash benefit, the State, through its LGUs, reaffirms its commitment to honor and care for our senior citizens—not only through large-scale programs but also through small, tangible gestures that recognize their worth and bring joy to their lives.

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



**JOHN GEESNELL “Baba” YAP**



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
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First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6794**

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**Introduced by Representative John Geesnell "Baba" Yap**

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**AN ACT**  
**GRANTING AN ADDITIONAL BIRTHDAY CASH BENEFIT TO**  
**SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT**  
**NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE**  
**CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING,**  
**GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER**  
**PURPOSES" AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Section 4 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:

"(a) the grant of twenty percent (20%) discount and  
exemption from the value -added tax (VAT), if applicable, on  
the sale of the following goods and services from all

establishments, for the exclusive use and enjoyment or  
availment of the senior citizen

xxx

“(I) xxx

“(M) BIRTHDAY CASH BENEFIT OF A  
MINIMUM AMOUNT OF FIVE HUNDRED PESOS  
(P500.00), TO BE RELEASED WITHIN A PERIOD NOT  
EXCEEDING SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE SENIOR  
CITIZEN’S DATE OF BIRTH. SUCH AMOUNT SHALL  
BE ADJUSTED DUE TO INFLATION EVERY THREE (3)  
YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES TO BE  
ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF SENIOR  
CITIZENS.”

SEC. 2. The birthday cash benefit provided under this Act shall be granted  
to senior citizens regardless of any other privilege or government assistance they  
may receive under existing laws, including the cash gift provided under Republic  
Act No. 10868 or the “*Centenarians Act of 2016*,” as amended by Republic Act  
No. 11982: *Provided*, That local government units (LGUs) which, prior to the  
effectivity of this Act, grant a birthday cash benefit to senior citizens in an amount  
less than Five hundred pesos (P500.00) shall adjust such benefit to conform with

the minimum amount prescribed herein: *Provided, further*, That no diminution thereof shall be allowed in cases where the existing birthday cash benefit granted by the LGUs exceeds Five hundred pesos (P500.00).

SEC. 3. The birthday cash benefit granted under this Act shall be released either through direct cash payout, direct remittance through the engagement of a service provider duly accredited by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, electronic transfer, or other modes of disbursement, whichever is more practical and acceptable to the beneficiary, ensuring its release in the most expeditious and efficient manner.

SEC. 4. Any transaction or service fee arising from the engagement of a service provider, electronic transfer, or other modes of disbursement with service fees for the release of the birthday cash benefit to senior citizens shall not be charged against the senior citizens.

SEC. 5. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government shall, in coordination with the Chairperson of the National Commission of Senior Citizens, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. The funds necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the local government unit where the senior citizen is registered. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its

continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force or effect.

SEC. 8. All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 9. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,