

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7013



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2010, Republic Act No. 9994, or the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act," was enacted to provide a 5% discount on water and electricity bills for senior citizens. However, since the passage of that law over a decade ago, the economic landscape has shifted dramatically.

Our seniors, many of whom live on fixed pensions or have no income at all, are disproportionately affected by the soaring costs of utilities and basic commodities. Currently, the 5% discount is subject to consumption caps (200kWh for electricity and 30 cubic meters of water). In the current climate, these thresholds and the discount percentage itself have become insufficient to provide meaningful financial relief.

This bill proposes to increase the discount rate from 5% to 15% and raise the consumption caps to more realistic levels. By easing the burden of monthly utility expenses, we ensure that our elderly can live their twilight years with greater dignity and less financial anxiety.

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


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 7013

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

AN ACT INCREASING THE DISCOUNT RATE ON THE MONTHLY ELECTRICITY AND WATER CONSUMPTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010”

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Enhanced Senior Citizen Utility Relief Act.”

SEC. 2. *Amendment.* – Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7432, otherwise known as the "Philippine Nursing Act of 2002", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. Privileges for the Senior Citizens. – The senior citizens shall be entitled to the following:

xxx

(c) The grant of a minimum of **FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%)** [instead of five percent (5%) discount relative to the monthly utilization of water and electricity supplied by the public utilities: *Provided*, That the individual meters for the foregoing utilities are registered in the name of the senior citizen residing therein: *Provided, further*, That the monthly consumption does not exceed **TWO HUNDRED KILOWATT HOURS (200 kWh)** [instead of one hundred (100) kWh] of electricity and **FIFTY CUBIC METERS** [instead of thirty (30) cubic meters] of water: *Provided, furthermore*, That the privilege is granted per household regardless of the number of senior citizens residing therein."

SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the National Commission of Senior Citizens, in coordination with the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), and Local Water Utilities Administration shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,