

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 653

Submitted by the Special Committee on Senior Citizens on May 30, 2023

Re: House Bill No. 8461

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7064

Sponsor: Representative Rodolfo “Ompong” M. Ordanes

Mr. Speaker:

The Special Committee on Senior Citizens, to which was referred House Bill No. 7064, introduced by Rep. Rodolfo “Ompong” M. Ordanes, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND STRENGTHENED
NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.
9994, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “EXPANDED SENIOR
CITIZENS ACT OF 2010.”**

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 8461, entitled:

**AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM FOR 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”**

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 7064, with Representatives Rodolfo “Ompong” M. Ordanes, Jane T. Castro, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Ma. Victoria Co-Pilar, Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay, Eulogio R. Rodriguez, Jose Maria R. Zubiri, Jr., Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., Salvador A. Pleyto, and Romulo “Kid” Peña, Jr. as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RODOLFO' with a stylized flourish.

REP. RODOLFO "OMPENG" M. ORDANES
Chairperson
Special Committee on Senior Citizens

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
House of Representatives
Quezon City

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8461
(In substitution of House Bill No. 7064)

Introduced by Representatives Rodolfo “Ompong” M. Ordanes, Jane T. Castro, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Ma. Victoria Co-Pilar, Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay, Eulogio R. Rodriguez, Jose Maria R. Zubiri, Jr., Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., Salvador A. Pleyto, and Romulo “Kid” Peña, Jr.

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM FOR 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”

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 5 (c) of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, is further
2 amended as follows:

3 “**SEC. 5. Government Assistance.** — The government shall provide the following:

4 (a) XXX

5 (b) XXX

6 (c) Health

7 “The DOH, in coordination with local government units (LGUs), NGOs and
8 POs for senior citizens, shall institute a national health program and shall provide an
9 integrated health service for senior citizens. It shall train community-based health
10 workers among senior citizens and health personnel to specialize in the geriatric care
11 and health problems of senior citizens.

12 “The national health program for senior citizens **THAT INCLUDES A**
13 **COMPREHENSIVE NUTRITION AND WELLNESS PROGRAM** shall, among
14 others, be harmonized with the National Prevention of Blindness Program of the DOH.

15 “Throughout the country, there shall be established a “senior citizens’ ward” in
16 every government hospital. This geriatric ward shall be for the exclusive use of senior

1 citizens who are in need of hospital confinement by reason of their health conditions.
2 However, when urgency of public necessity or emergency purposes so require, such
3 geriatric ward may be used for emergency purposes, after which, such “senior citizens’
4 ward” shall be reverted to its nature as geriatric ward.

5 **“THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL SHALL, IN**
6 **COORDINATION WITH THE DOH AND LGUS, PREPARE THE**
7 **COMPREHENSIVE NUTRITION AND WELLNESS PROGRAM FOR**
8 **DISSEMINATION TO SENIOR CITIZENS TO SERVE AS GUIDE FOR**
9 **THEIR HEALTHY LIVING.**

10 **“THE LGUS SHALL, THROUGH THE LOCAL HEALTH**
11 **PERSONNEL, REGULARLY VISIT EVERY SENIOR CITIZEN WITHIN**
12 **THEIR JURISDICTION AS PLATFORM FOR PRIMARY CARE AND TO**
13 **ADDRESS CHALLENGES AS WELL AS FOLLOW THROUGH ON**
14 **COMPLIANCE TO A HEALTHY DIET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE**
15 **COMPREHENSIVE NUTRITION AND WELLNESS PROGRAM**
16 **APPROPRIATE TO THEIR HEALTH CONDITIONS.**

17 **“LIKEWISE, THE LGUS SHALL, THROUGH THE OFFICE FOR THE**
18 **SENIOR CITIZENS AFFAIRS (OSCA), INTEGRATE THE**
19 **COMPREHENSIVE NUTRITION AND WELLNESS PROGRAM IN THEIR**
20 **RESPECTIVE PROGRAMS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS. THE OSCA SHALL**
21 **SUBMIT A MONTHLY REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE NUTRITION**
22 **AND WELLNESS PORGRAM TO THE DOH.”**

23 SEC. 2. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the
24 Interior and Local Government shall, in consultation with the National Nutrition Council and
25 Secretary of Health, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
26 implementation of this Act.

27 SEC. 3. All laws, presidential decrees, issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction,
28 rules or regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this
29 Act are repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

30 SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
31 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

32 *Approved,*

**House of Representatives
Committee Affairs Department**

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 8461

(In substitution of House Bill No. 7064)

AN ACT

**STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM FOR 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”**

Introduced by Representatives Rodolfo “Ompong” M. Ordanes, Jane T. Castro, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Ma. Victoria Co-Pilar, Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay, Eulogio R. Rodriguez, Jose Maria R. Zubiri, Jr., Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., Salvador A. Pleyto, and Romulo “Kid” Peña, Jr.

Committee Referral: Special Committee on Senior Citizens
*Committee Chairperson: **REP. RODOLFO “OMPONG” M. ORDANES***

OBJECTIVES:

- To adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health and give priority to the needs of the elderly
- To promote and protect the right of the people to health and instill consciousness on the need for health and proper nutrition of senior citizens

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Seeks to strengthen the national health program for senior citizens by including a comprehensive nutrition and wellness program;
- Mandates the National Nutrition Council, Department of Health and local government units (LGUs) to prepare a comprehensive nutrition and wellness program to serve as guide for senior citizens to nutritionally balanced meals that can prevent conditions related to poor nutrition; and
- Directs the LGUs through the Office for the Senior Citizens Affairs to integrate the comprehensive nutrition and wellness program in their respective programs for senior citizens.

RELATED LAW:

- 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”