

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 529

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by HON. RODEL M. BATOCABE, HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr., and
HON. CHRISTOPHER S. CO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 7432, which was approved and passed on 23 April 1992, otherwise known as An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for Other Purposes, as amended, is further amended in order to reduce the senior citizenship age from sixty (60) to fifty-six (56). The rationale behind are the established facts that at the age of 56, age-related ailments and other physical limitations are already experienced, thus, benefits and special privileges are but necessary.

In the year 2010, senior citizens made up 6.8% of the total household population in the country, and considering the proposed amendment of the senior citizen age as indicated in this bill, an additional of not more than 3 million members will be included from the age group of 56-59 years old, which is equivalent to around 3% of the total household population. The appropriated funds herein shall be very minimal compared to that of the benefits that shall be enjoyed by the indicated population herein.

Consequently, the proposed additional members that more than half of which are considered as heads of household, and those military personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines who are separated from service due to the set mandatory age of retirement of 56, will be provided with the same benefits and privileges to them as enjoyed by those under the existing regular retirement system.

In view thereof, the undersigned believes that further amendment of the RA 7432 is in order to cater to the small number of population that needs such benefits and special privileges as provided by the law. It is for these reasons that support for and prompt passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


RODEL M. BATOCABE


ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr.


CHRISTOPHER S. CO

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HOUSE BILL No. _____

Introduced by HON. RODEL M. BATOCABE, HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr., and
HON. CHRISTOPHER S. CO

1 **AN ACT TO REDUCE THE SENIOR CITIZEN AGE FROM SIXTY (60) TO FIFTY-SIX**
2 **(56), FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED,**
3 **OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF**
4 **SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL**
5 **PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

6
7 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
8 *Congress assembled:*

9 SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No.
10 9994, otherwise known as the "Expanded Seniors Citizen Act of 2010" is hereby further
11 amended to read as follows:

12 SEC. 2. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act, these terms are defined
13 as follows:

14 "(a) Senior citizen or elderly refers to any resident citizen of the Philippines at
15 least fifty-six (56) years old;

16 "x x x"

17 SECTION 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No.
18 9257, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003", is hereby further
19 amended to read as follows:

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

22 "x x x"

23 "(l) death benefit assistance of a minimum of Two thousand pesos
24 (Php2,000.00) shall be given to the nearest surviving relative of a deceased
25 senior citizen which amount shall be subject to adjustments due to inflation in
26 accordance with the guidelines to be issued by the DSWD.

27 "In the availment of the privileges mentioned above, the senior citizen, or his/her
28 duly authorized representative, may submit as proof of his/her entitlement there
29 to any of the following:

30 "(1) an identification card issued by the Office of the Senior Citizen Affairs
31 (OSCA) of the place where the senior citizen resides: Provided, That the
32 identification card issued by the particular OSCA shall be honored nationwide;

33 "(2) the passport of the senior citizen concerned; and

1 “(3) other documents that establish that the senior citizen is a citizen of the
2 Republic and is at least fifty-six (56) years of age as further provided in the
3 implementing rules and regulations.

4 “In the purchase of goods and services which are on promotional discount, the
5 senior citizen can avail of the promotional discount or the discount provided
6 herein, whichever is higher.

7 “The establishment may claim the discounts granted under subsections (a) and
8 (c) of this section as tax deduction based on the cost of the goods sold or
9 services rendered: Provided, That the cost of the discount shall be allowed as
10 deduction from gross income for the same taxable year that the discount is
11 granted: Provided, further, That the total amount of the claimed tax deduction net
12 of VAT, if applicable, shall be included in their gross sales receipts for tax
13 purposes and shall be subject to proper documentation and to the provisions of
14 the National Internal Revenue Code (NICR), as amended.”

15 **SECTION 3.** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations
16 or part thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby
17 repealed or modified accordingly.

18 **SECTION 4.** Should any provision of this Act be found unconstitutional by a court of
19 law, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of this Act, and such action
20 shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Act.

21 **SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in
22 any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

23 Approved,