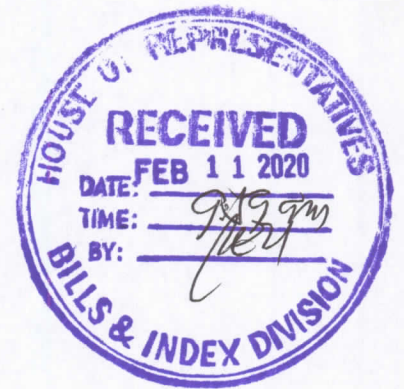


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 6244

Introduced by: **HON. "KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the statistics provided by countrymeters.info on their page, the current population of the Philippines as of February 10, 2020 totaled 108,258,622. As of the beginning of 2020, 34.6% of the population are young people under 15 years old; 61.1% are persons between 15 and 64 years old; and 4.3% which is almost 4,614,648 are persons above 64 years old, respectively.

Commission on Population (POPCOM) projected that the percentage of elderly people (persons above 64 years old) in the Philippines will most likely to grow to 5.6% by year 2025 and 6.3% by 2030.

The growing percentage of elderly people and the grave problem of poverty boosts the issue of elderly abandonment in the country. Over one and a half million elderly Filipinos have been abandoned due to number of reasons. Care centers and homes for the aged is non-existent in the Philippines.¹

This measure seeks to establish nursing homes in every province in the Philippines and another separate nursing homes for every city that will provide mental and physical health support to the abandoned and less fortunate elderly.

Thus, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

"KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO ✍
Representative
First District of Bulacan

¹ (Utzurum)
Utzurum, B. (n.d.). Elderly Abandonment in the Philippines .

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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6244
HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by: **HON. "KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NURSING HOME FOR HOMELESS AND ABANDONED
ELDERLY FILIPINOS IN EVERY PROVINCE AND ANOTHER SEPERATE
NURSING HOME FOR EVERY CITY IN THE PHILIPPINES APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND OTHER PURPOSES.

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 "Homes for Abandoned Elderly Act of 2020".

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to value the dignity of every human person, guarantee full respect for human rights, extend assistance to its elderly citizens through programs of social security, and promote the right to health and safety of the elderly citizens. Towards this end, the State shall extend assistance to abandoned and homeless elderly citizens through social care and security program.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean;

a) Abandoned Elderly Filipino refers to a elderly citizen who has been deserted, permanently or temporarily, by his relatives or persons who have general or legal responsibility over the elderly citizen, and /or from whom all basic care have been withdrawn, whether willfully or not;

b) Homeless Elderly Filipino refers to a elderly who lacks a fixed, regular residence, or whose current residence is unfit for human habitation, or lacks resources to obtain proper housing;

c) Nursing home refers to a home for the aged, established and maintained under this Act by a city municipality which provides living accommodations, food and clothing, medical and health care, and recreational and social interaction activities for abandoned elderly citizens or homeless elderly citizens;

d) Elderly Citizen refers to any resident citizen of the Philippines at least sixty five (65) years of age.

SECTION 4. Establishment of Nursing Homes. - There shall be established in every province and city, a nursing home to serve abandoned elderly citizens and homeless elderly citizens, to be built by the local government units (LGUs) concerned and shall be operated and maintained by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in coordination with the (LGUs) concerned.

SECTION 5. Functions of Nursing Homes. - The nursing homes shall provide homeless elderly citizens or abandoned elderly citizens within its territorial jurisdiction institutionalized residential care programs and services such as but not limited to;

- a. Comfortable living quarters;
- b. Adequate food and clothing;
- c. Medical consultation or treatment;
- d. Health care;
- e. Occupational opportunities;
- f. Recreational and social interaction activities;
- g. Counseling;
- h. Case conference;
- i. Family dialogue;
- j. Outreach to existing family for reintegration;
- k. Literacy education;
- l. Productivity development;
- m. Religious, cultural and vocational activities;

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The DSWD, in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Health and the Federation of Senior Citizens Association of the Philippines, and Confederation of Older Persons Associations of the Philippines, shall hereby promulgate the rules and regulations to carry out the provisions this Act not after than ninety (90) days after its effectivity.

SECTION 7. Exemptions of the Nursing Home. - The established nursing home shall be exempted from the payment of customs duties, taxes, and tariffs on the information if equipment and supplies used actually, directly, and exclusively by the nursing home pursuant to this Act, including those donated to the Nursing Home.

SECTION 8. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and every year thereafter.

SECTION 9. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby, shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national papers of general circulation.

Approved.

