Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6376



Introduced by Representative Romulo "Kid" Peña, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 11, Article XIII of the Constitution provides that "The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled women and children. xxx."

One of the known characteristics of Filipino families is that they care for their elderly and provide them with the necessary comfort and care. Elderly Filipinos are given proper attention and assistance in their homes. However, not every household is capable of prioritizing and addressing the needs of elderly family members. There are certain realities where the elderly is neglected because of socio-economic restraints and difficulties of caring for an aging relative. Given such situation, the State takes an active role in the care of elderly Filipinos.

This bill aims to establish an elderly care and nursing complex in every city and province in the country. In coordination with concerned government agencies like the Department of Health and Department of Social Welfare and Development, an elderly care and nursing complex will provide poor elderly members an opportunity to lead protected and dignified lives. Our aging citizens were once productive members of society and they definitely deserve a government that will take care of their welfare during their twilight years.

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

ROMULO "KID" PEÑA, JR.

Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6376

Introduced by Representative Romulo "Kid" Peña, Jr.

A TAT	A	MI	г
AN	A		L

1

2

10

11

12

13

14

15

17

18

ESTABLISHING AN ELDERLY CARE AND NURSING COMPLEX IN EVERY CITY AND PROVINCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "Elderly Care and Nursing Complex Act."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.— It is hereby declared the policy of the State to provide quality and affordable care and nursing facilities for poor elderly Filipinos. The State shall also endeavor to give priority to the needs of the elderly and actively participate in uplifting their well-being.

SEC.3. *Elderly Care and Nursing Complex*.—There shall be established an elderly care and nursing complex in every city and province in the country for all elderly persons whose family members are financially incapable to provide or meet the special needs and requirements of the elderly.

For purposes of this Act, elderly refers to a person who is sixty-five (65) years old and above. Elderly care and nursing complex refers to the place and facility that is designated to provide skilled and professional care to the elderly twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week.

3

5

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

SEC.5.Location of Complex.- The Department of Social Welfare and Development shall, in coordination with the Department of Health and the Department 6 of the Interior and Local Government, determine the location in the province and city 7 of the proposed elderly care and nursing complex. 8

SEC. 6. Government Assistance. The Department of Social Welfare and Development and the Department of Health, shall provide the necessary assistance and support to fulfill the needs of the elderly residing in the elderly care and nursing complex.

SEC. 7. Role of Family Members. - Family members shall be provided with adequate information on the policies and regulations of the elderly care and nursing complex and shall be guided on how to care for their elderly based on shared experiences and best practices. They shall also be informed about their responsibilities during the admission of their elderly in the facility.

SEC. 8. Personnel Recruitment and Incentives. - All personnel involved in the elderly care and nursing complex shall have adequate and appropriate education and training to be determined by the Department of Social Welfare and Development, in consultation with the Department of Health.

SEC. 9. Appropriations. - The sum necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and the Department of Health. Thereafter, such amount as 3 may be necessary for the continued operation of the elderly care and nursing complex shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. 5

SEC. 10. Separability Clause. If any part or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions which are not effected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. Repealing Clause. - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation. 13

Approved, 14

6

8

9

10

H

12