

Republic of the Philippines House of Representatives Quezon City, Metro Manila

> **Eighteenth Congress** First Regular Session

> > 764

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.

## Introduced by

Reps. FRANCISCO "JUN" G. DATOL JR., RODANTE D. MARCOLETA, DOMINGO C. RIVERA, MA. LOURDES T. ARROYO, ANTONINO G. CALIXTO, ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA, JR., JUNIE E. CIA, ALFRED D. VARGAS, ERIC M. MARTINEZ, SHIRLYN BAÑAS-NOGRALES, ABDULLAH D. DIMAPORO, CARLITO S. MARQUEZ, FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES, LORNA C. SILVERIO, FERNANDO T. CABREDO, BRAEDEN JOHN Q. BIRON, EDUARDO "EDDIE" R. GUILLAS, RON P. SALO, MACNELL M. LUSOTAN, ISAGANI S. AMATONG, MA. VICTORIA V. UMALI, ENRICO A. PINEDA

RESOLUTION URGING THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES CHAIRED BY MAJORITY LEADER REP. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ TO CONSIDER CONVERTING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS INTO A REGULAR STANDING **COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES** 

WHEREAS, Article XV, Section 4 of the Constitution declares that it is the duty of the family to take care of its elderly members but the State may also do so through just programs of social security. Consistent thereto, Article XIII, Section 11 of the Constitution further 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.

WHEREAS, according to the Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM), "By the year-end 2018 there will be eight million thirteen thousand fifty-nine (8, 013, 059) Filipinos over sixty (60), constituting 8.2% of Filipinos. Of this group, five million eighty-two thousand forty-nine (5, 082, 049) will be sixty-five (65) and older. Most countries are considered aging if they have at least 7% of the population over sixty-five (65) years old."

**WHEREAS,** according to the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), the total number of registered voters for senior citizens during the 2016 elections is nine million one hundred forty-two thousand sixty-six (9, 142, 066) out of the total sixty-one million eight hundred forty-three thousand six hundred fifty (61, 843, 650) registered voters nationwide. Thus, registered senior citizen voters comprise of 14.78% of the total registered voters of the Philippines.

**WHEREAS,** the ongoing shift in the Philippines from a "young" to an "aging" society will have some serious policy implications since aging will result to: increased morbidity, enlarged risks for non-communicable diseases like dementia and diabetes, and ballooning healthcare costs.

**WHEREAS,** in consideration of the abovementioned circumstances, the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress of the House of Representatives created the Special Committee on Senior Citizens whose mandate covers all matters directly and principally related to the needs and welfare of senior citizens; as well as policies and programs that will enhance their active participation in the society.

**WHEREAS,** on 26 July 2019, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed into law Republic Act No. 11350 or the National Commission of Senior Citizens whose mandate is to ensure the full implementation of laws and government programs for senior citizens and formulate policies for the promotion and protection of the rights of the elderly, among others.

WHEREAS, the conversion of the Special Committee on Senior Citizen into a Regular Committee of the House of Representatives is imperative to allow us to give our utmost attention and devote enough resources to the care of our senior citizens through meaning policies, programs and legislation. In fact, at present, the Special Committee on Senior Citizen has received 105 House Bills as main referral with four (4) House Bills as secondary referral. Thus, the conversion is indispensible to allow the House of Representatives to effectively address the needs, concerns, issues and interests of the senior citizens and further improve the lives and general welfare of Filipinos and their families. Furthermore, this act will be in fulfilment of the policy and directive of the President to care for our vulnerable senior citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT HEREBY RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES to convert the Special Committee on Senior Citizens into a Regular or Standing Committee of the House of Representatives.

Adopted,

FRANCISCO "JUN" G. DATOL JR.

RODANTÉ D. MARCOLETA,

Me hyder T. am **ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA, JR.** ERIC M. MARTINEZ **SHIRLYN BAÑAS-NOGRALES** ABDULLAH D. DIMAPORO FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES FERNANDO T. CABREDO BRAEDEN JOHN Q. BIRON **EDUARDO "EDDIE" R. GULLAS** In Velalo MA. VICTORIA V. UMALI ENRICO A. PINEDA