

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5943



Introduced by **HON. FRANCISCO G. DATOL, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The rationale for the creation of the National Commission of Senior Citizens (NCSC) is to integrate into one cohesive body all functions, programs and activities for senior citizens being undertaken by Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Local Government Units (LGU), and other government agencies and stakeholders.


The Office of Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA) is created by law and its head is appointed by the local government unit and is functioning as one of the departments of the City or Municipal Mayor.

Senior citizens referred to OSCA as their liaison center for implementation of their plans, programs, and other benefits and services.

Without integrating OSCA offices' functions, plans and programs into the Commission (NCSC) the reason for its existence and objectives would be put into naught.

Besides, City or Municipal Mayors are oftentimes using their respective OSCA to advance their own political interests.

Under this circumstances, this bill is urgently needing approval to carry out the objectives of the NCSC and in order that senior citizens in the country would not be disintegrated, disunited or separated.


HON. FRANCISCO G. DATOL, JR.
Representative
Senior Citizens Party List

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE
HEAD OF OFFICE OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS AFFAIR (OSCA)
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 6, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994,
AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SENIOR
CITIZENS ACT OF 2010"**

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

Section 1. Section 6 of the same Republic Act No. 9994, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 6. The Office of the Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA). – There shall be established in all cities and municipalities an OSCA to be headed by a senior citizen who shall be appointed by the city or municipal mayor from a list of three (3) nominees as recommended by the National Commission of Senior Citizens (NCSC) through its Provincial Director or Regional director. The head of OSCA shall serve for a term of four (4) years without prejudice to him being renominated by the NCSC for reappointment by the city or municipal mayor.

The head of the OSCA shall be appointed primarily to serve the interest of senior citizens. His continued qualification to his position shall be subject to the oversight and possible disciplinary action by the NCSC.

The head of OSCA shall continue to receive an honorarium of an amount at least equivalent to Salary Grade 10 from the LGU concerned. Its number of personnel shall not be diminished and shall continue to receive their usual allowances from the City or Municipal Mayor. Furthermore, the head of OSCA may receive additional allowance from the Commission.

The head of OSCA shall be under the general supervision of the Provincial Director or Regional Director of the commission.

The Office of the Mayor shall still exercise administrative supervision over the OSCA.

The OSCA shall have the following functions:

- (a) To plan, implement and monitor yearly work programs in pursuance of the objectives of this Act;*
- (b) To draw up a list of available and required services which can be provided by the senior citizens;*
- (c) To maintain and regularly update on a quarterly basis the list of senior citizens and to issue national individual identification cards, free of charge, which shall be valid anywhere in the country;*
- (d) To serve as general information and liaison center for senior citizens;*
- (e) To monitor compliance of the provisions of this Act particularly the grant of special discounts and privileges to senior citizens;*
- (f) To report to the mayor, any individual, establishments, business entities, institutions or agencies found violating any provision of this Act for appropriate proper action; and*
- (g) To assist the senior citizens in filing complaints or charges against any individual, establishments, business entities, institutions, or agencies refusing to comply with the privileges under this Act before the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Provincial Prosecutor's Office, the Regional or Municipal Trial Court."*

Section 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NCSC, in consultation with DSWD, DILG, League of Cities and Municipalities, and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Section 4. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

Section 5. *Repealing Clause.* – Section 6 of Republic Act 9994, as amended is hereby repealed. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.