Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 2872



Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE JOCELYN F. FORTUNO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10868 otherwise known as the Centenarians Act of 2016 specifically grants the payment of Cash Gift in the amount of One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) to any Filipino citizen, who reached the age of One hundred years old. The paramount objective of this law was to motivate the senior citizens to live longer. However, data revealed that since the effectivity of this law in 2016 up to the year 2018, only four thousand six hundred eighty-eight (4,688) of the estimated seven million five hundred fifty thousand (7,550,000) senior citizens or equivalent to only 0.06 percent have been recipients of this award. This is attributable to the shorter lifespan of Filipinos.

This bill therefore seeks to authorize the granting of Centenarian Cash Gift in three (3) tranches, to wit: 80 year-old – P20,000.00; 90 year-old – P30,000.00; and 100 year-old – P50,000.00. This will effectively address the growing clamor of senior citizens, that due to the shorter lifespan of Filipinos, only few senior citizens will be able to receive the Cash Gift or if ever some of them would be lucky enough to reach that age, they can no longer enjoy the benefit as most, if not all of them, already lose their senses if not in "vegetable state".

According to the World Health Organization, Filipinos have a lifespan of 69.3 years, which is shorter by three years than the global average of age 72.

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

JOCELYN F. FORTUNO

Representative Fifth District, Camarines Sur

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AN ACT

AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF CENTENARIAN CASH GIFT IN THREE (3) TRANCHES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10868 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CENTENARIANS ACT OF 2016

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 (b) of Republic Act No. 10868 otherwise known as the "Centenarians Act of 2016" is hereby amended to read as follows:

- "Sec. 2. Letter of Felicitation and Cash Gift. All Filipinos who reach the age of one hundred (100) years old, whether residing in the Philippines or abroad, shall be honored with:
- (a) Letter of Felicitation from the President of the Philippines congratulating the celebrant for his or her longevity; and
- (b) A Centenarian Gift in the amount of one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00)[.] TO BE GIVEN IN THREE (3) TRANCHES, TO WIT:
 - i. AT AGE 80 TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (P20,000.00)
 - ii. AT AGE 90 THIRTY THOUSAND PESOS (P30,000,00)
 - iii. AT AGE 100 FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00)

Nothing in this Act shall mean to refund the amount already received in case the recipient does not reach the age of one hundred (100) years.

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,