EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session
)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES H. No. 5382

Introduced by Representative Raul C. Tupas

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10868, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CENTENARIANS ACT OF 2016 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution provides under Section 4, Article XV that, "The family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the State may also do so through just programs of social security."

This proposed measure seeks to amend Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10868 or the Centenarians Act of 2016 by advancing the grant of privileges to our senior citizens upon reaching the age of eighty (80), ninety (90), and one hundred (100) respectively.

Recent statistics show that very few Filipinos live up to 100 years or more. Hence, only a limited number of senior citizens get to enjoy the benefits and privileges being provided by the Centenarians Act. In addition, according to a study published by the Coalition of Services of the Elderly (COSE), over half of senior citizens or at least 54 percent receive no pension at all. Most senior citizens have to look to their families for financial support in old age. However, this is often too limited because of widespread poverty and vulnerability amongst Filipino families.

It is the goal of this bill to provide much needed aid to our elderlies in terms of income augmentation to provide for their maintenance medicines and healthy food to further prolong their lives even beyond a century.

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

RAUL "BOBOV" C. TUPAS

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

SECTION 1. Sec. 2 of Republic Act No. 10868, otherwise known as 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 EIGHTY (80) YEARS OLD, NINETY (90) YEARS OLD, AND one hundred (100) years old, whether residing in the Philippines or abroad, shall be honored with:

- a) A Letter of Felicitation from the President of the Philippines congratulating the celebrant for his or her longevity; and
- b) A Centenarian Cash Gift in the amount of one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00), TO BE DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS: (I) TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P25,000.00) UPON REACHING THE AGE OF EIGHTY, (II) TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P25,000.00) UPON REACHING THE AGE OF NINETY, AND (III) THE BALANCE OF FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) UPON REACHING THE AGE OF 100."

SECTION 2. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders or rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,