## Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

### **EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6360



Introduced by **Hon. Marie Fe Abunda**Representative, Lone District, Eastern Samar

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION TWO OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10868
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT HONORING AND GRANTING ADDITIONAL
BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO FILIPINO CENTENARIANS, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES"

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The proposed measure in line with Section 4, Article XV of the 1987 Constitution which provides that "the family has the duty to care for its elderly member but the State may also do so through programs of social security" seeks to further improve the plight of our senior citizens and the elderly as it will continue to ensure that our elderly are constantly taken care of, prioritized and loved by the State.

The bill particularly aims to amend Republic Act No. 10868, also known as the "Centenarians Act of 2016" by dividing the cash gift into three (3) tranches particularly when the beneficiary turns 80, 90 and 100 years old with a grant of PHP25,000.00, PHP25,000.00 and PHP50,000.00 respectively. By providing these proposed advance disbursements to our qualified senior citizens, it will provide them with early opportunities to use the cash gifts for their necessary resources, medicines and other daily expenses at a much earlier age. The amendment will allow more of our country's elderly to enjoy and take advantage of the financial incentive as they proceed into the twilight years of their lives.

To care for those who once cared for us and who have carried our nation's cultural heritage need to be given the proper assistance and must be able to enjoy this assistance as soon as they enter the latter years of their lives. This measure will be of great financial assistance for their well-being and the enjoyment of their families.

Thus, the passage and approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

Hon. Marie Fe Abunda Lone District, Eastern Samar

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

**SECTION 1.** Section two of Republic Act No. 10868 is further amended 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) 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 DIVIDED AND DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS:** 
  - (I) TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (PHP25,000.00) UPON REACHING THE AGE OF EIGHTY (80);
  - (II) TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (PHP25,000.00) UPON REACHING THE AGE OF NINETY (90);
  - (III) THE REMAING BALANCE OF FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (PHP50,000.00) UPON REACHING THE AGE OF ONE HUNDRED (100).

**SECTION 2. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations, and other parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended and modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two newspapers of general circulation, which shall not be later than seven (7) days after the approval thereof.

Approved.