

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC }
OF THE PHILIPPINES }
First Regular Session }

'04 NOV 11 P4:45

SENATE

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S.B. No. 1849

Introduced by Senator Edgardo J. Angara

EXPLANATORY NOTE


Section 4, Article XV and Section 11, Article XIII of the Philippine constitution enunciates the duty of the State to provide basic social services to senior citizens.

This policy was echoed through the enactment of RA 9257, otherwise known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Law, granting additional benefits and privileges to senior citizens to maximize their contribution to nation-building and rewarding them for the significant roles they played during their younger years.

This bill seeks to enhance the privileges already granted to senior citizens by including costs of electric and water utilities in the list of items subject to the twenty percent (20%) discount privilege. The measure also provides for exemption from payment of real property taxes on the family homes of senior citizens, as well as exemption from the payment of the twenty percent (20%) withholding tax on interest income from bank deposits.

In the latter years of their lives, it is a fact that most senior citizens are not financially prepared to meet the attendant expenses. They clamor for government assistance so that they will have the opportunity to continue living in a dignified manner.

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


EDGARDO J. ANGARA

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AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT
GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO SENIOR
CITIZENS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION
OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND
SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

1 SECTION. 1. SEC. 2. of RA 9257 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 "SEC. 4. *Privileges for the Senior Citizens.* – The senior citizens shall be entitled
3 to the following:

4 (a) the grant of twenty percent (20%) discount from all establishments relative to
5 the utilization of **WATER AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLIED BY PUBLIC**
6 **UTILITIES: PROVIDED, THAT THE INDIVIDUAL METERS FOR**
7 **THE FOREGOING UTILITIES ARE REGISTERED IN THE NAME**
8 **OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN CONCERNED: PROVIDED, FURTHER,**
9 **THAT THE MONTHLY CONSUMPTION DOES NOT EXCEED**
10 **THREE HUNDRED KILOWATT PER HOUR (300 KPH) FOR**
11 **ELECTRICITY, AND THIRTY CUBIC METER (30 m³) FOR WATER:**
12 **PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE PRIVILEGE COULD ONLY BE**
13 **AVAILED OF IN ONE HOUSE,** services in hotels and similar lodging
14 establishments, restaurants and recreation centers, and purchase of medicines

1 in all establishments for the exclusive use or enjoyment of senior citizens,
2 including funeral and burial services for the death of senior citizens;

3 xxx

xxx

xxx

4 **(N) EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAX**
5 **AND / OR ANY ASSESSMENTS ON REAL PROPERTY ON THEIR**
6 **FAMILY HOMES, INCLUDING THE LAND ON WHICH IT IS**
7 **SITUATED;**

8 **(O) EXEMPTION FROM THE TWENTY PERCENT (20%)**
9 **WITHHOLDING TAX ON INTEREST INCOME FROM BANK**
10 **DEPOSITS FOR DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS NOT EXCEEDING TWO**
11 **MILLION PESOS (P 2,000,000.00), PROVIDED, THAT THE**
12 **EXEMPTION CAN ONLY BE AVAILED IN ONE BANK.**

13
14 **SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.*** If any portion or provision of this Act shall be
15 declared unconstitutional, such declaration shall not invalidate other parts thereof, which
16 shall remain in full force and effect.

17 **SEC. 3 *Repealing Clause.*** All laws and rules and regulations or parts thereof
18 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

19 **SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen days following the
20 publication in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

21 Approved,