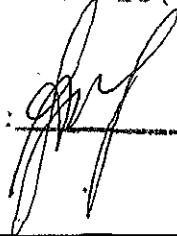


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION )

7 JUN 30 P 1:28

SENATE  
S.B. No. 79

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to exempt senior citizens from the payment of real property tax in order to alleviate them from additional financial burdens in the latter years of their life.

The country prides itself in recognizing its senior citizens as members of its human resource and the significant role they play in bridging the past culture with the present. Republic Act No. 7432 also known as the "Senior Citizens Act" and Republic Act No. 9257 also known as "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003" were enacted to grant benefits and special privileges to the elderly as recognition of their significant role and function in society.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development estimates that there are 5.2 million elderly Filipinos all over the country, making up about 6.4 percent of the population. It is estimated to increase to 9.5 percent of the general population by 2020. In 1970, for every senior citizen there were about 11 people working to provide for the needs of the elderly. Studies claim that by the year 2020, there will be a decrease on the number of individuals providing for one elderly - six persons to one senior citizen. The demands of globalization, modernization and industrialization continually alter the existing conditions of the elderly. By this, there is a need to provide our senior citizens more mechanisms for self-reliance despite their advanced age.

This bill addresses that need by exempting the elderly from paying real property taxes on real property registered under their names at the time they reach the age of seniority.

While under Section 5 paragraph f of Republic Act No. 9257, individuals or non-government institutions establishing homes, residential communities or retirement villages solely for the senior citizens shall be accorded realty tax holiday for the first five (5) years starting from the first year of operation, there is likewise a need for the State to give assistance to senior citizens who choose to stay at home and to the families that take care of their needs.

Through this additional benefit, it is the intent of this proposed measure to afford our senior citizens the ability to attend to other demands of their condition, such as medical and social requirements, using the money originally intended for the payment of the real property tax.

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

  
**LOREN LEGARDA**  
Senator

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

7 JUN 30 P1:28

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AN ACT  
EXEMPTING SENIOR CITIZENS FROM THE PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY  
TAX UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, 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, AS  
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9357, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2003, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9257 is hereby amended by inserting  
a new subparagraph "d", to read as follows:

"D) EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAX  
AND ANY TAX ON REAL PROPERTY, SUCH AS THE SPECIAL  
EDUCATION FUND TAX: PROVIDED, THAT, THIS PROVISION SHALL  
APPLY ONLY TO A REAL PROPERTY OWNER WHO HAS ATTAINED THE  
AGE OF SIXTY YEARS OR OLDER, ON REAL PROPERTY THAT IS  
REGISTERED UNDER HIS OR HER NAME AT THE TIME OF THE  
ATTAINMENT OF SUCH AGE AND HAS OCCUPIED THE SAID  
PROPERTY, WHETHER CONTINUOUS OR BROKEN, FOR A PERIOD OF  
NOT LESS THAN TEN YEARS PRIOR TO THE ATTAINMENT OF THE AGE  
OF SENIORITY; PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, THEIR ANNUAL TAXABLE  
INCOME DOES NOT EXCEED THE POVERTY LEVEL AS DETERMINED BY  
THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA)  
FOR THE TAXABLE YEAR."

**SECTION 2. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, executive orders or rules  
and regulations, and/or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or  
modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. Separation Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the provisions thereof not affected by such declaration shall remain in force and effect.

**SECTION 4. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect upon approval.

Approved,