NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) *First Regular Session*)

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SENATE S. No. 2169

Introduced by Senator MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

AN ACT

GRANTING SENIOR CITIZENS, A MINIMUM OF FIVE PERCENT (5%) DISCOUNT ON THE FIRST 150 KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION AND ON THE FIRST 50 CUBIC METERS OF WATER CONSUMPTION, AND EXEMPTION FROM THE VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT), AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS' ACT OF 2010"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There are several reasons why it can be beneficial to provide senior citizens with discounts on their electricity and water bills:

First is that it is a form of financial assistance to households with a senior citizen resident. Many senior citizens are on a fixed income and may struggle to pay for basic necessities such as utilities. Providing them with discounts can help alleviate some of their financial burdens and ensure that they can afford to live comfortably.

Second is that if provides a relatively affordable access to electricity and water, which are essential for maintaining good health, especially for seniors who may have medical conditions that require them to use medical equipment or take medication that needs to be stored and used at a specific temperature. Discounted bills can help ensure that they have access to these essential utilities.

Third is that is a form of exercise of social responsibility. Providing discounts to seniors is a way of recognizing their contributions to society and showing gratitude for their hard work and dedication over the years. It is also a way of demonstrating that society values and cares for its elderly population. Finally, providing discounts to seniors can stimulate the local economy as they are more likely to spend their savings on local goods and services, which can help create jobs and generate revenue for businesses.

Overall, providing discounts on electricity and water bills for senior citizens is a way of supporting them and acknowledging their contributions to society while also ensuring their basic needs are met.

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

MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID Senator

Office of the Societary

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1	AN ACT
2	GRANTING SENIOR CITIZENS, A MINIMUM OF FIVE PERCENT (5%)
3	DISCOUNT ON THE FIRST 150 KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY
4	CONSUMPTION AND ON THE FIRST 50 CUBIC METERS OF WATER
5	CONSUMPTION, AND EXEMPTION FROM THE VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT),
6	AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE
7	KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS' ACT OF 2010"

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

8 SECTION 1. *Title.* — This Act shall be known as the expanded Senior Citizens
9 Act of 2022."

SECTION 2. Section 4 (c) of Republic Act No 7432, as amended by Republic Act No. 9257, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003", and as further amended by Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

14	XXX
15	"SECTION 4. Privileges for the Senior Citizens —
16	(c) the grant of a minimum of five percent (5%) discount
17	[relative to the monthly utilization of water and electricity
18	supplied by the public utilities:] ON THE FIRST ONE
19	HUNDRED FIFTY (150) KILOWATT HOURS (KWH) AND

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ON THE FIRST FIFTY (50) CUBIC METERS RELATIVE 1 TO THEIR MONTHLY UTILIZATION OF WATER AND 2 ELECTRICITY SUPPLIED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES, 3 AND EXEMPTION ON FROM THE VALUE ADDED TAX 4 (VAT), Provided, That the individual meters for the foregoing 5 utilities are registered in the name of the senior citizen 6 7 residing therein: [Provided, further, that the monthly consumption does not exceed one hundred kilowatt hours (100 8 9 kwh) of electricity and thirty cubic meters (30 m³) of water:] and Provided, furthermore, That the privilege is granted per 10 11 household regardless of the number of senior citizens residing therein." 12

SECTION 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within thirty (30) days
 from the enactment of this law, the concerned agencies named under Republic Act
 No. 9994 shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations.

SECTION 4. Separability Clause. — In the event that any part, section or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court, the remaining provisions thereby shall remain valid and in full force and effect as if the sections or provisions so annulled or voided had never been incorporated herein.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof not consistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified and/or superseded as case may be by this Act accordingly.

SECTION 6. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
 circulation, whichever comes earlier.

27 Approved,

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