FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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INTRODUCED BY HON, MANNY VILLAR

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE, WELFARE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO REVIEW AND ASSESS THE SENIOR CITIZENS LAW AND ITS IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS IN THE LIGHT OF THE ALLEGED FAILURE OF THE LAW TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE ISSUES RELATING SENIOR CITIZENS

WHEREAS, Article XV, Sec. 4 provides, "The family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the State may also do so through just programs of social security";

WHEREAS, numerous senior citizens in the country report ill-treatments committed against them by people and establishments. Reports say that a number of drugstores have enforced a new policy requiring senior citizens to secure a doctor's prescription even for over-the-counter drugs in order to avail of the senior citizen's 20 percent discount. Clearly, the said new policy of the drugstores is not only absurd but also impractical. Naturally, the senior citizens would have to spend for doctor's fee plus transportation cost to get a prescription not to mention the inconvenience it would entail;

WHEREAS, the existing law limits the grant of privilege to senior citizens whose income does not exceed P60,000 per annum. Other concerned senior citizens claim that the said requirement is obsolete and impractical because the income of a senior citizen changes, hence, cannot be verified;

WHEREAS, many senior citizens allege that they cannot enjoy the privileges and benefits to which they are entitled to because the law has many flaws and that the same could not truly address the needs of the senior citizens of the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development and other appropriate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to review and assess the Senior Citizens Law and its primplementing rules and regulations in the light of the alleged failure of the law to be responsive to the issues relating senior citizens.

Adopted,

MANNY VILLAR
Senator