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SENATE S.B. No. **2737**

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

AN ACT ABOLISHING THE NATIONAL COORDINATING AND MONITORING BOARD AND CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING THEREFOR REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257,AS FURTHER AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our Filipino senior citizens have contributed immensely to the growth and progress of the country. As they reach the twilight of their lives, it is our responsibility as a society to ensure their rights and privileges, and that proper accommodation is given to them.

To further embolden RA 7432, the Senior Citizens Act of 2015 seeks to institutionalize the National Commission for Senior Citizens (NCSC), which shall have the best interests of our country's seniors at heart.

As a national agency, the NCSC will formulate and implement policies, plans, and programs that promote senior rights and privileges or address issues plaguing the sector.

With sectors such as the youth, women, and persons with disabilities having a specialized body catering to their constituents, it is about time that our Filipino seniors are awarded their own commission as well to ensure that no Filipino gets left behind.

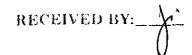
In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC **OF THE PHILIPPINES**)) **Second Regular Session**

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AN ACT ABOLISHING THE NATIONAL COORDINATING AND MONITORING BOARD AND CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING THEREFOR REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257,AS FURTHER AMENDED BY **REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994**

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the 2 "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 3 "SECTION 11. NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS (NCSC). - TO CARRY OUT THE POLICIES SET FORTH, THERE SHALL BE CREATED THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR 4 5 CITIZENS (NCSC) WHICH SHALL BE THE PRIMARY GOVERNMENT AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE 6 FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES, PLANS, AND PROGRAMS TO RECOGNIZE, 7 PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF SENIOR CITIZENS."
- SECTION 2. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the 8 9 "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 10 "SECTION 12. APPOINTMENT. - THE CHAIRPERSON AND COMMISSIONER/S SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM A LIST OF RECOMMENDEES 11 12 SUBMITTED BY SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS."
- 13 SECTION 3. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7432 as amended, otherwise known as the 14 "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 15 "SECTION 13. QUALIFICATIONS, TENURE, COMPENSATION. - THE CHAIRPERSON AND THE SIX (6) COMMISSIONERS MUST BE NATURAL BORN CITIZENS, BONA FIDE MEMBERS OF 16 SENIOR CITIZEN ASSOCIATIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS AS CERTIFIED BY THE ASSOCIATION OR 17 ORGANIZATION, AT LEAST 60 YEARS OLD AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT, PROVIDED, FURTHER, 18 THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE NCSC SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS, 19 AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO REAPPOINTMENT FOR ANOTHER TERM: PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, 20 THAT NO PERSON SHALL SERVE FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) TERMS. APPOINTMENT TO ANY 21 VACANCY SHALL ONLY BE FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF THE PREDECESSOR AND IN NO CASE 22 23 SHALL A MEMBER BE APPOINTED OR DESIGNATED IN A TEMPORARY OR ACTING CAPACITY: 24 PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE CHAIRPERSON AND THE COMMISSIONERS SHALL BE ENTITLED
- 25 TO COMPENSATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SALARY STANDARDIZATION LAW."

SECTION 4. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 14. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE. - ANY MEMBER OF THE NCSC MAY BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE BY THE PRESIDENT, ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE OR UPON RECOMMENDATION BY ANY SENIOR CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS, BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF HIS TERM FOR JUST CAUSE AND AFTER COMPLYING WITH DUE PROCESS REQUIREMENT OF LAW."

- **SECTION 5**. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 7432,as amended, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 9 "SECTION 15. APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS. THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT 10 THE SEVEN (7) COMMISSIONERS OF THE NCSC WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS FROM THE 11 EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT."

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- 12 **SECTION 6.** Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the 13 "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:
- "SECTION 16. *POWERS AND FUNCTIONS.* TO ACCOMPLISH ITS MANDATE, THE NCSC SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS, JURISDICTION AND FUNCTION:
- 16 A) TO SERVE AS THE PRIMARY GOVERNMENT AGENCY THROUGH WHICH SENIOR
 17 CITIZENS CAN SEEK GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE AND AS THE MEDIUM, THROUGH WHICH SUCH
 18 ASSISTANCE MAY BE EXTENDED;
- 19 B) TO REVIEW AND ASSESS THE CONDITIONS OF SENIOR CITIZENS INCLUDING 20 EXISTING LAWS AND POLICIES PERTINENT THERETO AND TO PROPOSE RELEVANT LAWS AND 21 POLICIES TO ADDRESS THEIR ROLE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT;
- C) TO FORMULATE AND IMPLEMENT POLICIES, PLANS, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS
 FOR THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND TO
 MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF;
 - F) SUBJECT TO EXISTING LAWS, TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, OR ARRANGEMENT, WITH GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE AGENCIES OR ENTITIES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ATTAIN THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT, AND SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT, TO OBTAIN LOANS FROM GOVERNMENT LENDING INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER LENDING INSTITUTIONS TO FINANCE ITS PROGRAMS;
- 30 G) TO NEGOTIATE FOR FUNDS AND TO ACCEPT GRANTS, DONATIONS, GIFTS
 31 AND/OR PROPERTIES IN WHATEVER FORM AND FROM WHATEVER SOURCE, LOCAL AND
 32 INTERNATIONAL, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, FOR THE
 33 BENEFIT OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND ADMINISTER THE SAME IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS
 34 THEREOF; OR IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY CONDITION, IN SUCH MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE
 35 INTEREST OF SENIOR CITIZENS AS WELL AS EXISTING LAWS;
- 36 H) TO COORDINATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE 37 ADVANCEMENT OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND TO OVERSEE THE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION 38 THEREOF;
- 39 I) TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION OF SENIOR CITIZENS IN BUSINESS CREATION AND 40 ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO MENTORSHIP, 41 MANAGEMENT AND POTENTIAL INVESTMENT;

1 2	J) TO CONVENE PERIODIC CONVENTIONS OR ASSEMBLIES OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO REVIEW, ASSESS AS WELL AS PROPOSE POLICIES OR PLANS;
3 4 5	K) TO PREPARE YEARLY ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, CONGRESS, AND THE CONCERNED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS;
6 7	L) TO SUBMIT TO CONGRESS APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS INTENDED TO CARRY OUT THE POLICIES UNDER THIS ACT;
8 9	M) TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT THE APPROPRIATE BUDGET TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT;
10 11	N) TO PROMULGATE THE NECESSARY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT;
12 13	O) TO EXERCISE SUCH OTHER POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE DIRECTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES; AND
14 15 16	P) TO REPRESENT THE PHILIPPINE SENIOR CITIZENS IN ALL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS DEALING WITH SENIOR CITIZENS AND OTHER RELATED CONCERNS."
17 18	SECTION 7. Section 17 of Republic Act No. 7432, as amended, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010", is hereby amended to read as follows:
19 20 21 22	"SECTION 17. REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS THERE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN ALL REGIONS A REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS WITH SIMILAR MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS AS THE NATIONAL COMMISSION AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE, SIMILAR BODIES SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS."
23 24 25	SECTION 8. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations or part thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
26 27 28	SECTION 9. Should any provision of this Act be found unconstitutional by a court of law, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of this Act, and such action shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Act.
29 30 31	SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,