

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE	]
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	]
First Regular Session	]

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SENATE

s.B. No. 1265

### Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

#### AN ACT GRANTING SENIOR CITIZENS FREE MOVIE PRIVILEGE

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This is a modest bill affording our senior citizens the privilege of watching any movie of their choice, in any cinema or theater not otherwise excluded from the coverage. Our gesture seeks to bestow the benefit of this amusement privilege to our senior citizens as a simple token, in recognition of their importance to our society, as an additional source of joy and leisure at their age, in this day and time. This privilege has gained support and is now being implemented in Cebu City, Quezon City, Makati City, Manila, Las Pinas, Batangas, Sta. Rosa in Laguna and in San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte.

Due to the foregoing considerations, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

WIN GATCHALIAN



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## AN ACT GRANTING SENIOR CITIZENS FREE MOVIE PRIVILEGE

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

- SECTION 1. **Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Senior Citizens Free Movie Privilege Act of 2016".
- SEC. 2. **Definition of terms.** For the purpose of this Act, the following terms and phrases shall apply:
  - a) Senior citizen refers to any resident citizen of the Philippines sixty (60) years of age and over.
    - b) Exclusive use or enjoyment of senior citizens shall refer to the discount or other privileges that can be availed of only by senior citizens.
  - c) DSWD refers to the Department of Social Welfare and Development.
  - d) Movie Theater also called a cinema, is a venue, usually a building, that contains an auditorium for viewing films, for entertainment. Most, but not all, movie theaters are commercial operations catering to the general public, who attend by purchasing a ticket.
    - e) Corporate Social Responsibility means the continuing commitment by businesses to behave ethically and contribute to economic development while improving the quality of life of the workforce and their families as

well as the local community and society at large. It functions as a builtin, self-regulating mechanism whereby a business monitors and ensures its active compliance with the spirit of the law, ethical standards and international norms.

SEC. 3. *Coverage*. – This Act shall be enforced in all movie theaters in the Philippines and maybe availed of by all senior citizens of the country.

- SEC 4. *Free Movie Privilege*. Every senior citizen shall enjoy the special privilege of free entrance or pass to any film of their choice, in a movie house or theater. The free movie access is a non-transferrable privilege for all senior citizens covered under the definition of Republic Act 7432.
- SEC. 5. **Availment.** The free movie pass maybe availed of once a week preferably during the 1st or 2nd Screenings. Cinema or theater owners and operators however shall be given the preference to make specific schedules as to the day and time, provided for in the Memorandum of Agreement, upon proper notice to the senior citizens. Participating cinemas are not prohibited from offering this free movie privilege on additional days of the week depending on their Corporate Social Responsibility Program. No fee or other charges maybe imposed to avail of this special privilege.
- Free movie access is good for one viewing/screening only. Senior citizens who want to repeat watching the movie will have to pay the regular movie entrance with the privilege of 20% discount as provided for under the law.
- SEC. 6. *Participating Movie Houses.* The DSWD shall enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with all movie houses, theater owners and operators engaged in said business, providing therein the specific day and time when the privilege may be availed of, as well as the proof of identification required to be presented to avail of this free movie passage in their preferred cinema.
- SEC. 7. *Monitoring sheet and Booklet.* Each movie house or theater shall provide weekly official monitoring sheet where every senior citizen shall register their full name, signature and ID number. A senior citizen shall likewise keep a booklet duly stamped by the theater or movie house to record the date and time when the privilege was availed of.

1	SEC. 8. Special Events This free movie privilege covers only the regular
2	theaters and cinema houses and excludes special cinemas such as Imax Theaters
3	Directors Club and 4D Theaters, as well as Screenings for special events like
4	sponsored movie premiers, pay per view showing and the like.

- SEC. 9. **Theater and movie seats**. Senior citizens do not have special privilege on seat plan/arrangement except for senior citizens on wheelchair where a designated space shall be allocated for them.
- 8 SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The DSWD shall issue 9 the corresponding rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this 10 Act.
- SEC. 11. **Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.
  - SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause*. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national papers of general circulation.

Approved,

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