



SENATE

S. No. 2159

(In substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 674, 1881 and 2099)

PREPARED BY THE COMMITTEES ON SOCIAL JUSTICE,
WELFARE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT; CIVIL SERVICE,
GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND PROFESSIONAL
REGULATION; WAYS AND MEANS; AND FINANCE WITH
SENATORS AQUINO IV, SOTTO III, ANGARA, TRILLANES
IV, DE LIMA, BINAY, DRILON, EJERCITO, GATCHALIAN,
GORDON, HONASAN II, HONTIVEROS, LACSON,
LEGARDA, PIMENTEL III, POE, VILLANUEVA AND
ZUBIRI AS AUTHORS THEREOF

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF
SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING FOR ITS
FUNCTIONS, ABOLISHING THE NATIONAL
COORDINATING COUNCIL AND MONITORING
BOARD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as
2 the “National Commission of Senior Citizens Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the
4 State to adopt measures whereby our senior citizens are

1 assisted and appreciated by the community as a whole,
2 provide services and activities beneficial to senior citizens,
3 their families and the communities they serve, and
4 establish community-based health and rehabilitation,
5 educational, and socioeconomic programs for all senior
6 citizens.

7 Consistent with this policy, the State shall promote
8 the advocacy of and collaboration between different
9 stakeholders and senior citizens to ensure the effective
10 implementation of various programs and services,
11 particularly on the development of senior citizens and
12 advancing their health and well-being, and ensuring a
13 supportive and enabling environment for the elderly.

14 SEC. 3. *Creation of the National Commission of Senior*
15 *Citizens.* – There is hereby created the National
16 Commission of Senior Citizens, hereinafter referred to as
17 the Commission, and which shall be under the Office of the
18 President. The Commission shall establish its principal
19 office in the National Capital Region and it may set up

1 field offices in coordination with appropriate government
2 agencies.

3 SEC. 4. *Composition.* – The Commission shall be
4 composed of a Chairperson and six (6) Commissioners and
5 shall act as a collegial body. The Chairperson shall be the
6 Chief Executive Officer of the Commission. The six (6)
7 Commissioners shall represent different geographical
8 regions of the Philippines and shall hold office in their
9 respective regions: *Provided*, That the full Commission
10 shall meet at least once every month.

11 SEC. 5. *Term of Office.* – The Chairperson and
12 Commissioners shall have a term of office of six (6) years,
13 without prejudice to reappointment by the President. Of
14 those first appointed, the Chairperson and two (2)
15 Commissioners shall hold office for six (6) years, two (2)
16 Commissioners shall hold office for four (4) years, and two
17 (2) Commissioners shall hold office for two (2) years.
18 Appointment to any vacancy shall only be for the
19 unexpired term of the predecessor.

1 SEC. 6. *Qualifications.* – The members of the
2 Commission must be citizens and residents of the
3 Philippines; at least sixty (60) years old at the time of their
4 appointment; of good moral character; *bona fide* members
5 of senior citizens associations; holders of a college degree
6 or have relevant experience in the affairs of senior citizens;
7 of good health and sound mind; have not been convicted by
8 a final judgment of a crime involving moral turpitude; and
9 recommended by a general assembly of senior citizens
10 organizations: *Provided*, That at least two (2)
11 Commissioners shall be women.

12 SEC. 7. *Functions.* – The Commission shall:

13 (a) Ensure the full implementation of laws, policies,
14 and programs of the government pertaining to senior
15 citizens; review and conduct studies on the same; and
16 recommend appropriate actions thereon to Congress and
17 the President;

18 (b) Formulate policies for the promotion and
19 protection of the rights and well-being of senior citizens;

1 (c) Conduct information, education, and
2 communication campaigns to raise awareness on the rights
3 of senior citizens;

4 (d) Establish and maintain cooperation and
5 consultations with local government units and national
6 government agencies on all matters pertaining to the
7 general welfare of senior citizens;

8 (e) Represent the Philippines in international
9 functions, fora, or conferences on senior citizens and
10 establish and maintain linkages with the international
11 senior citizen or senior citizen-serving institutions or
12 organizations and counterpart government agencies of
13 other states;

14 (f) Constitute and convene when necessary, an
15 advisory body to be composed of such representatives from
16 the government, nongovernment organizations, civil
17 society, and the private sector, as the Commission may
18 deem appropriate, to assist in the performance of its
19 functions;

1 (g) Develop appropriate mechanisms and procedures
2 for the selection and nomination of the members of the
3 Commission for appointment by the President; and

4 (h) Perform such other actions and functions for the
5 promotion of the welfare of senior citizens, as may be
6 directed by the President.

7 SEC. 8. *Organizational Structure.* – Subject to the
8 approval of the Department of Budget and Management
9 (DBM), the Commission shall determine its organizational
10 structure and staffing pattern, create offices, divisions, or
11 units as it may deem necessary, and appoint its officers
12 and employees in accordance with civil service laws, rules
13 and regulations. The remuneration structure for the
14 positions in the staffing pattern shall strictly conform to
15 Republic Act No. 6758, otherwise known as the “Salary
16 Standardization Law”, as amended.

17 SEC. 9. *Executive Director.* – The Commission shall
18 appoint an Executive Director who shall be responsible for
19 implementing the policies, rules, regulations and directives
20 of the Commission; the management of the Commission’s

1 daily operations; and for coordinating and supervising the
2 activities of the different offices, divisions, and units of the
3 Commission.

4 The Executive Director shall be a Career Executive
5 Service Officer and shall have at least five (5) years of
6 relevant experience in any of the following fields: law;
7 economics; commerce; management; social services; or
8 finance.

9 SEC. 10. *Abolition of the National Coordinating and*
10 *Monitoring Board.* – The National Coordinating and
11 Monitoring Board created by virtue of Republic Act No.
12 9994, otherwise known as “Expanded Senior Citizens Act
13 of 2010”, is hereby abolished.

14 SEC. 11. *Transfer of Functions from the Department of*
15 *Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to the National*
16 *Commission of Senior Citizens (NCSC).* – All functions,
17 programs, projects and activities which are being
18 undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare and
19 Development for the formulation, implementation, and
20 coordination of social welfare and development (SWD)

1 policies and programs for the poor, vulnerable and
2 disadvantaged senior citizens shall be transferred to the
3 NCSC.

4 SEC. 12. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to
5 fund the implementation of this Act shall be included in
6 the annual General Appropriations Act.

7 SEC. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The
8 Commission, after due consultation with the DBM, DSWD,
9 Department of the Interior and Local Government, League
10 of Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the
11 Philippines, and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the
12 rules and regulations for the effective implementation of
13 this Act, within one hundred eighty (180) days from its
14 effectivity.

15 SEC. 14. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason any
16 section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or
17 invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be
18 affected thereby.

19 SEC. 15. *Repealing Clause.* – Section 11 of Republic
20 Act No. 7432, as amended by Republic Act No. 9257 and

1 further amended by Republic Act No. 9994, is hereby
2 repealed. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
3 regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, that are
4 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
5 repealed or modified accordingly.

6 SEC. 16. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen
7 (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a
8 newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,