

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4067



Introduced by Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

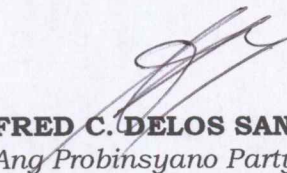
1 The life expectancy of a person living in a particular country can even be
2 said to be an indicator of quality of life standards. Countries with higher life
3 expectancies generally have higher gross domestic products, better access to basic
4 resources and social services, and even higher rates of happiness. According to
5 data from the World Bank, the average life expectancy of a Filipino citizen is around
6 69 years of age. This number can be seen as an indication of the average life of the
7 Filipino.

8
9 That is why, even as we strive to improve our daily lives, it is an achievement
10 for any Filipino to live beyond that average life expectancy and even reach a
11 hundred years old. That is one of the main reasons behind the passage of RA
12 10868 or otherwise known as the Centenarians Act. The law's purpose was to give
13 both aid and public recognition to these individuals which are paragons of wisdom
14 and longevity.

15
16 In line with the Centenarians Act's policy to reward the wisdom and
17 longevity of our elders, this bill seeks to expand and extend to more of our elders
18 the benefits from the Centenarians Act. Based on the 2015 Census conducted by
19 the National Statistics Office, there are around 1,220,000 Filipinos who are aged 70
20 and above while those over 80 years old are only around 790,000. As such, the
21 amendment of the Centenarians Act would allow more of our senior citizens to
22 benefit from the assistance provided under the Centenarians Act. The monetary aid
23 would alleviate some of the hardships of our elders in the short-term by allowing
24 them to purchase maintenance medicines and other needs as we continue to work
25 towards a better system for taking care of them.

26
27 The just and humane society that we as a people envision in the
28 Constitution is one which takes care of their elderly and values their dignity as
29 persons. This bill is a step towards that direction.

30
31 It is for these foregoing premises that the approval of this bill is earnestly
32 sought.


ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS
Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party List

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**AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10868 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
CENTENARIANS ACT OF 2016**

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10868, otherwise known as the
2 Centenarians Act of 2016 is hereby amended to read as follows:
3

4 "Section 2. *Letter of Felicitation and Cash Gift.* – All Filipinos who are
5 currently 70 years old and expected to reach the age of one hundred (100)
6 years old, whether residing in the Philippines or abroad, shall be honored
7 with:
8

9 a) A Letter of Felicitation from the President of the Philippines
10 congratulating the celebrant for his or her longevity; and
11

12 b) A Centenarian Gift in the amount of one hundred thousand pesos (P
13 100,000.00) to be distributed and given as follows: Upon reaching the age
14 of seventy (70) years old, twenty-five thousand pesos (P25,000.00) shall
15 be advanced to him or her. Upon reaching the age of eighty (80) years old,
16 twenty-five thousand pesos (P25,000.00) shall be advanced. Upon
17 reaching ninety (90) years old, twenty-five thousand pesos (P25,000.00)
18 shall be advanced. The remaining twenty-five thousand peso
19 (P25,000.00) balance shall be given when he or she will reach one
20 hundred (100) years old together with the letter of felicitation mentioned
21 above."
22

23 SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and
24 proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are
25 hereby amended or modified accordingly.
26

27 SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid
28 or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in
29 full force and effect.
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31 SECTION 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
32 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
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Approved,