

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 NOV 29 A10 :42

SENATE

S. No. 1558

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
REQUIRING ESTABLISHMENTS TO PROVIDE PRIORITY SEATING FOR THE
ELDERLY, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATIONS THEREOF
FURTHER AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the "*Expanded Senior Citizens Act*", was enacted in 2010 to increase the benefits and privileges of our senior citizens. This enactment has since been very beneficial to the elderly sector of our society.

This proposal at hand is another attempt to afford our elderly yet another privilege that they rightfully and logically deserve. This bill seeks to require establishments to reserve and designate seats, or tables (if applicable), for senior citizens. We know that public utility vehicles (PUVs) are now practicing this directive by providing designated seats for senior citizens, persons with disabilities and pregnant women. This bill seeks to extend this to include establishments, especially commercial ones. The need for this measure is particularly evident in restaurants when it is already full. Even though we afford the elders to have express lanes in counters, after they have made their purchase, they do not have anywhere to sit and enjoy their meals.

For the recognition of the contributions of the senior citizens in nation-building, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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*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 the "*Priority Seating for the*
2 *Elderly Act of 2022.*"

3 Sec. 2. A new section is inserted after Sec. 5 of Republic Act No. 9994,
4 otherwise known as the "*Expanded Senior Citizens Act*" to read as follows:

5 **SEC. 6. PRIORITY SEATING FOR THE ELDERLY. – ALL**
6 **ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,**
7 **RESTAURANTS, LIBRARIES, RECREATIONAL CENTERS,**
8 **VENUE HALLS, SHALL RESERVE AND DESIGNATE THE**
9 **BEST POSSIBLE SEATS, AND TABLES (IF APPLICABLE),**
10 **FOR SENIOR CITIZENS.**

11
12 **THE PRIORITY SEAT, AND TABLE (IF APPLICABLE)**
13 **SHALL BE CLEARLY LABELLED TO INDICATE THAT OTHER**
14 **CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS MAY USE THEM BUT MUST**
15 **VACATE THEM IF THEY ARE NEEDED BY AN ELDERLY:**
16 **PROVIDED, THAT CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS WHO ARE**

1 **PREGNANT OR ARE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**
2 **SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM THIS PROVISION.**

3 Sec. 3. A new paragraph is inserted in Section 7 of RA 9994 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 10. Penalties. – Any person who refuses to honor the senior
5 citizen card issued by this government or violates any provision
6 of this Act shall suffer the following penalties:

7 (a) x x x

8 (b) x x x

9 (c) x x x

10 **ANY ESTABLISHMENT WHICH FAILS TO COMPLY WITH**
11 **SECTION 6 OF THIS ACT SHALL, UPON CONVICTION, PAY**
12 **A FINE OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS**
13 **(P100,000.00) TO FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS**
14 **(P500,000.00).**

15 Sec. 4. Affected sections of RA 9994 are hereby renumbered accordingly.

16 Sec. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or
17 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
18 remain in full force and effect.

19 Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees or issuances,
20 executive orders, letter of instructions, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary
21 to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or
22 amended accordingly.

23 Sec. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24 publication either in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
25 circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,