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P186M earmarked for centenarians' cash gift

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QUEZON City 4th District Rep. Marvin Rillo said Sunday that Congress had allocated P186 million under the 2024 national budget law for the cash gift of centenarians, at P100,000 each.

"In the 2024 General Appropriations Law, the sum of P186 million has been earmarked for the tax-free cash gift of Filipino centenarians," Rillo, a member of the House Committee on Appropriations, said in a statement.

"We, in Congress, are fully determined to keep up the annual funding for the gift in recognition of Filipinos who have achieved healthy aging and longevity," he said.

The Centenarians Law of 2016 entitled natural-born Filipinos who reach the age of 100 to a P100,000 cash gift from the government, whether they live in the country or abroad.

"The Department of Social Welfare and Development has spent more than P1.2 billion for the cash gift of 12,186 centenarians since 2017," Rillo said.

The cash gift "is coursed through Philippine embassies and consulates" for those living abroad.