

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 4961

Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE SALVIO B. FORTUNO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to institutionalize the granting of discount privileges on land, water and air transport services to students in the public and private educational institutions. The said students fare discount shall be effective during the entire school year, including non-school days holidays for elementary and high school students and during the entire semester for college students.

The Constitution explicitly mandates that the youth must be given access to quality education at all levels. However, the spiraling costs of prime commodities and transportation services have compelled many parents to let their children study only in nearby schools but when there is no available affordable educational institutions nearby, children are forced to quit schooling. This effectively defeats the noble objectives of this Constitutional mandate.

The granting of the student discounts on land, sea and air transportation services will somehow help them cope up with economic demands and will enable them to send their children even to far distant schools as there will be lesser fare expenses, the saving of which can be used for other school needs.

As of now, the students are enjoying discounts only on land transportation fares due to a Memorandum Circular issued by the Land Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) and this Memorandum Circular may be revoked anytime unlike a law which has a certain degree permanency.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


SALVIO B. FORTUNO
Representative
Fifth District, Camarines Sur

✓

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4961

Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE SALVIO B. FORTUNO**

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANTING OF DISCOUNT PRIVILEGES ON
LAND, WATER AND AIR TRANSPORT UTILITIES TO ALL STUDENTS AND
PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Discount Privilege. - There is hereby granted twenty percent (20%) discount privileges on land, water and air transport utilities to all bonafide students enrolled in the elementary, secondary and college levels during the entire school year or semester as the case may be, including on non-school days and holidays. Such privilege may be claimed only upon presentation of a valid school identification card.

SEC. 2. Venue for Filing Complaint. - In case of refusal to grant discount privilege under this Act, any student may file a complaint with the Legal Department of Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), who shall resolve the complaint not later than six (6) months after the filing of such complaint.

SEC. 3. Penalties. - The following penalties shall be imposed for violating the provision of this Act:

- a. **First Offense** - one month suspension of license or franchise or certificate of public convenience and necessity and a fine of one thousand pesos (P1,000.00) for erring driver, conductor or inspector, or operator of a public utility;
- b. **Subsequent Violations.** - six (6) months suspension of license or franchise or certificate of public convenience and necessity and a fine of five thousand

pesos (P5,000.00) for erring driver, conductor or inspector, or operator of a public utility;

SEC. 4. Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Transportation and Communication shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Shirley", is written over a long, thin diagonal line that extends from the bottom left towards the top right of the page.