

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 4757

Introduced by **Kabataan Party-list Representative Terry L. Ridon**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 15 of Article XIV (*Education, Science and Technology, Arts and Culture, and Sports*) of the 1987 Constitution states that: "*SEC. 15. xxx The State shall conserve, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations.*"

This bill, first filed by former Kabataan Party-list Rep. Raymond Palatino in the 15th Congress, seeks to require all museums and historical shrines, which charge visitor entrance fees, to give free admission for at least two regular days every month.

Museums and historical shrines are institutions and landmarks where a collection of Filipino artifacts, memorable events and other objects of artistic or historical importance may be found. They highlight the country's historic legacies through exposition of artworks, relics and memorabilia of heroes and other illustrious Filipinos that instill pride among the Filipinos. Likewise, museums reinvigorate the youth's passion to appreciate our nation's distinct cultural heritage.

Considering the high cost of living, most Filipinos ignore the opportunity to tour and explore these museums and shrines because entrance fees would mean additional expense on their part. It is thus essential for the Filipino people to be granted free access to these establishments in order for them to have more knowledge about the history of the Philippines and to know how rich Philippine culture is.

In providing free access to museums, Filipinos that are incapable of paying entrance fees will have the opportunity to appreciate the significance of museums and historical shrines which represent their identity and cultural heritage.

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


Hon. Terry L. Ridon
Representative, Kabataan Party-list

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House Bill No. **4757**

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR FREE VISITOR ADMISSION DAYS EVERY MONTH IN ALL
MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL SHRINES IN THE COUNTRY WHICH CHARGE
VISITOR ENTRANCE FEES

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 "Free Access to Museums
2 Act of 2014."

3 **SECTION 2.** All public and private museums and historical shrines which charge
4 visitor entrance fees shall render free visitor admission to the public for at least two regular
5 days every month.

6 **SECTION 3.** The National Commission for Culture and the Arts shall, within (60) days
7 after the effectivity of this Act, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
8 implementation of this Act.

9 **SECTION 4.** All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, issuances and rules and
10 regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of the Act are hereby
11 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

12 **SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
13 Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,