

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
House Bill No. 6116



Introduced by **Representative Ron P. Salo**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Today, most transactions require some form of identification whether it is a private or a government transaction. While most of the citizens may be in possession of one or more government IDs, there is no single universal identification that the Filipinos can use for easier transactions.

On the side of the government, the multiplicity of identification systems perpetuates red tape, which has always been the bane of Philippine bureaucracy. Red tape, as defined, is the excessive bureaucracy or adherence to rules and formalities which results in delay or inaction. Since we do not have a single universal system of identification in the Philippines, individuals have to present different sets of proof of identification at every agency. This results in the inefficient delivery and processing by the different government agencies because it requires different modes of identification and verification. Sometimes, this practice has also spilled-over to the private sector as parties would also require various identification cards to ascertain the real identity of the other parties since there is no single universal identification issued by the government.

Further, various organs of the government would require various identification cards in order to avail of necessary government services. This has been made more pronounced among the Marawi evacuees where it was reported that certain local government units required the evacuees to secure identification cards. As such, most of them claim that there was discrimination against them. Certainly, such issue would not have arisen if we have single universal identification system.

Finally, the necessity for a national system of identification has risen in importance because of the confirmed news that there are now in the country foreign terrorists. A secured national ID system helps address our common desire for public safety and national security.

Thus, it is imperative upon Congress to create a National Identification System that shall address these concerns. This bill aims to create a National Identification System that will create a single universal system of identification that shall be proof of one's identification both for government and private transactions. This will necessarily reduce the costs and redundancies of transactions, and simplify the processing and delivery of government services. This shall complement the

existing Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007 in our citizens' quest to finally eliminate red tape in the government.

The proposed measure will certainly strengthen the capacity and capability of our law enforcement agencies in ensuring public safety and national security.

Hence, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


RON P. SALO
KABAYAN Partylist

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
House Bill No. 6116

Introduced by **Representative Ron P. Salo**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM, DEFINING ITS
PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS, CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL
IDENTIFICATION FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “National Identification System Act”.

SECTION 2. National Identification System. – A National Identification System shall be created which shall provide the official identification of every citizens of the Republic of the Philippines. A corresponding Identification Card with a permanent serial number shall be issued to all citizens which shall consolidate all identification systems issued by various government agencies.

SECTION 3. Issuance of a National Identification Card – Every Filipino citizen shall be required to register and be issued a National Identification Card which shall be permanent. Application for the National ID card shall be handled by the Philippine Statistics Authority through the Local Civil Registry. The ID shall be made of tamper-proof material. On its face, the following shall be imprinted:

- a. Photograph of the ID owner
- b. Full Name
- c. National ID Number
- d. Permanent Residence
- e. Date of Birth
- f. Date of issuance

At the back of the ID shall bear the owner's signature and right thumb mark, or their equivalents as determined in the IRR. The initial application for the issuance of the ID shall be free of charge and the succeeding issuances shall be charged to the owner, or to their parents or guardians for minors.

SECTION 4. Issuance of ID Card. – Upon registration of the child with the Local Civil Registry, the Philippine Statistics Office shall issue the child's permanent ID card.

SECTION 5. Amendments on the Details in the ID card. – Any amendment in the details specified in the ID card may be made either *motu proprio* by the National Statistics Office upon actual information by appropriate government agencies, or by the owner – or his parents or guardians for minors – upon presenting appropriate proof as specified in the IRR.

SECTION 6. Functions and Uses of the National Identification Card – The ID card that will be issued shall be presented and honored in transactions requiring the verification of the person's identity, such as, but not limited to:

- a) transactions with any government agency;
- b) filing applications for any services and benefits offered by the Government Service Insurance Corporation (GSIS), the Social Security System (SSS) and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation;
- c) application for employment;
- d) tendering income tax payments to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR);
- e) admission to any government hospital, health centers or similar institutions;
- f) identification for admission in all schools, colleges, learning institutions and/or universities, whether public or private;
- g) opening of bank account and other bank related transactions;
- h) proof of identity, status, age, and address;
- i) voter's registration; and
- j) other similar transactions or uses which may be defined in the IRR.

SECTION 7. Authorizing the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) to harmonize all Government Identification Systems. – The Philippine Statistics Authority shall serve as the lead agency in streamlining and developing the system. Permanent representatives from different government agencies shall be appointed by the heads of their respective agencies, including but not limited to the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Health, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Labor and Employment, National Bureau of Investigation, Land Transportation Office, Bureau of Immigration, Social Security System, Government Service Insurance System, Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, and the Commission on Elections.

A technical working group may be created to provide assistance as may be necessary for the effective performance of its function.

SECTION 8. Office of the National ID. – An Office of the National ID within the Philippine Statistic Authority and placed directly under the Office of the PSA Board Chairperson shall be created to ensure the implementation of this Act. The office, headed by an Assistant Secretary, shall have the necessary staff complement as approved by the Department of Budget and Management.

The Office of the National ID shall maintain a central database of all Filipinos issued with the ID Card. In so doing, it shall protect the right to privacy of the

individual and shall ensure the integrity and veracity of the details contained in the ID Card as well as the data on the person.

It shall also adopt measures in immediately cancelling the ID cards of deceased persons.

All participating government agencies, and private entities approved by the PSA Board, shall have access to the details of ID cards issued by the Office of the National ID.

SECTION 9. Penal Provisions –

- a) Any person knowingly or willfully provides false information during the application for the National Identification System shall be punished for a fine of not less than Five Thousand Pesos (P 5,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 100,000.00), or an imprisonment of not less than two (2) months but not more than two (2) years, or both, at the discretion of the court.
- b) Except for parents or guardians of minors, any person who knowingly or willfully attempts to register an identity other than his own shall be punished for a fine of not less than Five Thousand Pesos (P 5,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 100,000.00), or an imprisonment of not less than two (2) months but not more than two (2) years, or both, at the discretion of the court.
- c) No person shall be registered with more than one (1) National ID number. Any person proved to have knowingly or willfully registered for more than one (1) National ID number shall be punished for a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P 10,000.00) but not more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 500,000.00) or an imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than two (2) years, or both, at the discretion of the court.
- d) Any officer or employee of the Office of the National ID, and their conspirators, if any, who knowingly or willfully place or inputs false data on an individual, or without lawful authority, divulge the details of a person contained therein shall be punished for a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P 10,000.00) but not more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 500,000.00), or an imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than two (2) years, or both, at the discretion of the court. This shall be in addition to his administrative liabilities.

SECTION 10. Appropriation. – The Department of Budget and Management shall recommend the appropriate funding for the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Implementing Rules and Regulations for this Act shall be promulgated by the Philippine Statistics Authority in consultation with the participating agencies within three (3) months from

the effectivity of this Act. It shall include, but not limited to, the adoption of safeguards as may be necessary to ensure right to privacy of an individual takes precedence over efficient public service delivery.

SECTION 12. Separability clause. – The provisions of this Act are hereby declared separable, and in the event one or more of such provisions or part thereof are declared unconstitutional, such declaration of unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity of the other provisions thereof.

SECTION 13. Repealing clause. – All laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations and/or administrative regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby amended, modified, superseded or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 14. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.