

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8590



Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

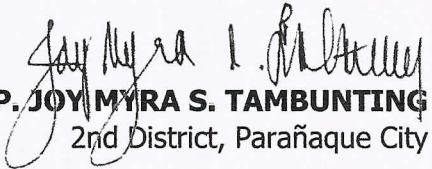
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Persons with disabilities (PWDs) deserve to enjoy the same rights as others do in our society. They should be able to live freely and independently as possible. Out of 92.1 million household population of the Philippines in 2010, 1.443 million are persons with disabilities. On a daily basis, 15 out of the 50 people we interact with would be persons with disabilities.

Republic Act No. 7277 or the Magna Cart for Disabled Persons provided for the issuance of PWD Identification Cards, which entitles PWDs to benefits and privileges specified in the Act. Presently, the issuance of PWD cards is under the jurisdiction of local government units. The validity of these card is limited to three years, in consideration of the need to re-evaluate the cardholder's current disability status. While the intent of the rationale is understandable, especially with some individuals who abuse the system, this rationale is inapplicable to those with permanent disabilities and only forces them to shell out expenses for the renewal of their cards every three years.

In this light, this measure shall allow for the issuance of PWD cards with lifetime validity with PWDs with permanent disabilities, duly certified by the Municipal or City Health Office where the PWD resides.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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HOUSE BILL NO. 8590

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR LIFETIME VALIDITY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY
IDENTIFICATION CARDS ISSUED TO PWDS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITY,
FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS", AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. Section 32 of Republic Act No. 7277, otherwise known as the "Magna carta for Disabled Persons", as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 32. Persons with disability shall be entitled to the following:

XXX.

The above-mentioned privileges are available only to persons with disability who are Filipino citizens upon submission of any of the following as proof of his/her entitlement thereto:

- (I) An identification card issued by the city or municipal mayor the barangay captain of the place where the person with disability resides;
- (II) The passport of the persons with disability concerned; or
- (III) Transportation discount fare Identification Card (ID) Issued by the National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons (NCWDP).

THE IDENTIFICATION CARDS ISSUED TO PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITY AS PROVIDED IN (I) AND (III) OF THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH SHALL BE VALID DURING THE LIFETIME OF THE HOLDER, AND MAY BE RENEWED IN CASE OF LOSS OR DAMAGE: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH PERMANENT DISABILITY IS CERTIFIED BY THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY HEALTH OFFICE WHERE THE PWD RESIDES; PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THE ISSUING OFFICES SHALL IMPLEMENT MEASURES TO ENSURE

THAT THE LIFETIME VALIDITY OF THE IDENTIFICATION CARDS IS NOT ABUSED, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE ID HOLDER DIES."

Section 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – To carry out the provisions of this Act, the National Council on Disability Affairs in consultation with the Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Health, Department of Social Welfare and Development and other relevant government agencies and stakeholders shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, issue the implementing rules and regulations for this Act.

Section 3. Separability Clause. – Should any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be held invalid, the other provisions or sections of this Act shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are Inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following Its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,