

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1142



Introduced by Rep. FAUSTINO 'INNO' A. DY V

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to grant student fare discount on transportation tickets purchased online, amending for the purpose Republic Act No. 11314, otherwise known as the "*Student Fare Discount Act*."

Enshrined in the Constitution is the principle that "*the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all*". The State shall also establish and maintain a system of scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies, and other incentives, which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private schools, especially to the underprivileged.

Under RA 11314, students are entitled to a twenty percent (20%) discount on domestic regular fares for all public transportation. However, the law requires personal presentation of the duly issued school identification card, which makes the student discount unavailable online. This Bill seeks to address this problem by specifically providing that the discount shall apply even to tickets purchased online.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, digital technology helped businesses adapt to the new normal. This must be harnessed further for the benefit of the public, like students who wish to avail a student fare discount on transportation tickets purchased online. Digital submissions of their identification cards ensure continuous access to benefits, expedited processing and review of applications, and savings in time and resources that would be otherwise spent in personal submissions.

The amendment being sought is beneficial and essential during this time of pandemic.

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



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HOUSE BILL NO. 1142

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AN ACT
GRANTING STUDENT FARE DISCOUNT ON TRANSPORTATION TICKETS
PURCHASED ONLINE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.
11314, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE *STUDENT FARE DISCOUNT ACT*"

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

SECTION 1. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 11314 is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. *Student Fare Discount Privilege.* – A student under this Act shall be entitled to a grant of twenty percent (20%) discount on domestic regular fares, upon personal presentation of their duly issued school identification cards (IDs) or current validated enrollment form, supported by the prescribed government-issued identification document, subject to an appropriate verification mechanism to be provided in the implementing rules and regulations (IRR): *Provided*, That in the case of air public transportation utilities, the discount shall only apply to the base fare or the price of the ticket before taxes and costs for ancillary services.

"IN CASE OF TRANSPORTATION TICKETS PURCHASED ONLINE, THE STUDENTS ARE ALSO ENTITLED TO THE 20% FARE DISCOUNT, SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION PROVIDED IN THE IRR AND THE PRESENTATION OF THEIR DULY ISSUED SCHOOL IDENTIFICATION CARDS OR CURRENT VALID ENROLLMENT FORM UPON PURCHASE OF THE TICKETS ONLINE."

SECTION 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,