

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

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

House Bill No. 2917



INTRODUCED BY Rep. GREG G. GASATAYA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Those who have less in life should have more in law. While there are existing benefits for Senior Citizens and Persons With Disability (PWDs) provided by law, the State can further develop policies that would induce a more satisfactory life for them.

Senior Citizens and PWDs are the most likely to require special medical intervention. Despite our country's significant advances in the field of Medical Technology, it cannot be denied that there are still procedures for certain illnesses that are exclusive or are more affordable in countries abroad. Thus, overseas travel must be made accessible to Senior Citizens and PWDs.

This bill seeks to reduce the financial burden of travelling on Senior Citizens and PWDs by exempting them from travel tax. The current amount of travel tax in the country varies, as provided by Presidential Decree 1183: for Economy class, full travel tax amounts to Php 1,620, Standard Reduced Travel Tax at Php 810, and Privileged Reduced Tax for OFW Dependents is Php 300. For First Class, Full rate amounts to Php 2,700, Standard Reduced Rate is Php 1,350, and for Privileged Reduced Tax for OFW dependents at Php 400. As many Senior Citizens rely solely on pension and PWDs on their families for income, it is imperative that the State provides them with as much privileges as possible.

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


REP. GREG G. GASATAYA
Lone District of Bacolod

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**AN ACT
EXEMPTING SENIOR CITIZENS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
FROM TRAVEL TAX**

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Tax-Free Travel for Senior Citizens and PWDs Act.”

SECTION 2. *Exemption to Travel Tax.* – Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities shall be exempted from the imposition of the travel tax.

SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect

SECTION 4. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED,