

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



NINETEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2997**

Introduced by **REP. PRINCESS RIHAN M. SAKALURAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Magna Carta for the Disabled Persons Act or Republic Act No. 7277 (RA 7277) enunciates the State's positive stance in the protection of the Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). Indeed, RA 7277 echoes the salutatory mandate of the State to give full support and integrate in the mainstream society PWDs.

It is emphasized that disabled persons shall be of primary concern of the State. However, there is a need to recognize that it has been difficult to integrate PWDs in the society where discrimination on account of their disabilities are rampant.

As to not let the State's duties be a mere lip service, this bill is filed for two purposes: 1) Deterrence; and 2) Protection. By explicitly legislating that crimes committed against PWDs is an aggravating circumstance, it is aspired that would-be perpetrators of crimes be deterred to commit offenses against PWDs. Further, through this legislation, it is hoped that PWDs would be afforded more protection from the State. Indeed, increased penalties by aggravating circumstances, is a pre-emptive measure of fulfilling the State's duties with our PWDs.

To reach this lofty goal of protecting our PWDs, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

REP. PRINCESS RIHAN M. SAKALURAN

1st District, Sultan Kudarat

Republic of the Philippines
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NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2997

Introduced by **REP. PRINCESS RIHAN M. SAKALURAN**

AN ACT
INSTITUTING VIOLENCE AGAINST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AS AN
AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 14 OF THE REVISED
PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10951

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

Section 1. The Revised Penal, as amended by Republic Act No. 10951, is hereby amended by inserting a new section designated as Article 14 (22) to read as follows:

Article 14. *Aggravating Circumstances.* The following are aggravating circumstances:

x x x

22. That the crime be committed against Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in accordance with Republic Act No. 7277 or the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons Act” and its amendments.

Section 2. Separability Clause. Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act.

Section 3. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Section 4. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.