

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7740



Introduced by Representative Joseph Gilbert F. Violago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the 1956 Magsaysay Credo, “[G]overnment starts at the bottom and moves upward, for government exists for the welfare of the masses of the nation.”

The 1987 Constitution provides that The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all. (Art. II, Sec. 9) Likewise, the State’s duty to care for its elderly members may be through just programs of social security. (Art. XV, Sec. 4)

This bill seeks to grant senior citizens and persons with disabilities (PWDs) with travel tax discount of 20% in order to lessen their financial burden when travelling, especially for emergency or health reasons. Consequently, they can instead use their money for more important goods and services.

A similar version of this commendable bill was approved on Third and Final Reading in the 17th Congress and was transmitted to the Senate; however, the same was not passed into law due to lack of material time. Subsequently, similar bills were filed in the 18th Congress, and the present proponent acknowledges the hard work and wisdom of his predecessors.

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


JOSEPH GILBERT F. VIOLAGO

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AN ACT
PROVIDING TRAVEL TAX DISCOUNT TO SENIOR CITIZENS AND
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1183, AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. Section 2-A of Presidential Decree No. 1183, entitled "Amending and Consolidating the Provisions on Travel tax of Republic Act No. 1478 as Amended and Republic Act No. 6141, Prescribing the Manner of Collection Thereof, Providing Penalties for Violations Thereof, and For Other Purposes", as amended by Executive Order No. 283, series of 1987, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2-A. Unless otherwise exempted under Section 2 of the same decree, a reduced rate of P1,350 for first class passage and P810 for economy class passage shall be imposed on the following:

"(a) Individuals who are 12 years old or below but over two years of age;

"(b) Accredited Filipino journalists whose travel is in pursuit of journalistic assignments as certified to by the Press Secretary; and

"(c) Those authorized by the President of the Philippines for reasons of national interest.

**"A TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT ON TRAVEL TAX
IMPOSED ON FIRST CLASS AND ECONOMY CLASS
PASSAGES SHALL BE GRANTED TO THE FOLLOWING:**

**"(1) SENIOR CITIZENS DULY CERTIFIED UNDER
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432; AND**

**"(2) PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES DULY CERTIFIED
UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277."**

SECTION 2. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* – Section 2 of Presidential Decree No. 1183, as amended by Executive Order No. 283, entitled “Restructuring the Travel Tax Exemptions and Restoring the Reduced Rates on Certain Individuals, Amending for this Purpose, Presidential Decree No. 1183, as Amended”, Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7432, entitled “An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and For Other Purposes”, and Title Two of Republic Act No. 7277, also known as the “Magna Carta for Disabled Persons” are hereby amended accordingly. All other laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, proclamations, rules, regulations, issuances, and enactments or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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,