Republic of the Philippines

House of Representatives

Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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HOUSE BILL NO. **9849**

Introduced by Representative LORDAN G. SUAN

AN ACT
EXPANDING THE PRIVILEGES OF SOLO PARENTS BY EXEMPTING SOLO PARENTS FROM PARKING FEES IN ALL COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8972 AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11861, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SOLO PARENTS WELFARE ACT"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

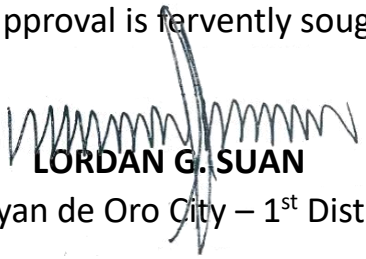
Based on a recent survey by the World Health Organization, our country is home to 15 million solo parents, a group considered vulnerable in society. The experience of raising children alone puts them in a challenging position, as they grapple with the daunting task of maintaining a delicate work-life balance. The solitary execution of their duties and responsibilities becomes overwhelming, forcing them into a relentless juggling act involving child care, bill payments, career pursuits, and various household needs. This multitasking struggle exacts a toll on both the solo parent and their children, leading to not only physiological but also psychological distress.

Solo parents encounter numerous challenges in fulfilling their obligations, including financial distress, work overload, and the demanding art of time management as they navigate between their professional and familial responsibilities.

Parking fee in establishments is ranging ₱30 to ₱200.

This proposed bill seeks to champion the welfare of our solo parents, recognizing the imperative need to alleviate the burdens they bear daily. Each peso matters significantly for solo parents, and by exempting them from parking fees that cost around thirty (30.00) to two hundred (200.00) pesos we can relieve them of a financial strain, enabling them to allocate additional funds to essential needs. This measure aims to contribute to the well-being of our beloved solo parents, recognizing and addressing the unique challenges they face in their courageous journey.

In light of the preceding, this bill's approval is fervently sought.



LORDAN G. SUAN
Cagayan de Oro City – 1st District

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* — This Act shall be known as the *"Solo Parents Parking Privileges Act."*

SECTION 2. Republic Act No. 8972, as amended by Republic Act No. 11861 is hereby further amended by inserting the following provisions after Section (15) to read as follows:

XXX

"SEC. 16. *Additional Privileges*. – A solo parent shall be accorded the subsequent additional privileges:

(a) Exemption from payment of parking fees in all commercial establishments such as markets, shopping malls, shopping warehouses, hospitals, and other similar entities. This also applies to government establishments that levy parking fees.

XXX”

SECTION 3. *Procedure and Qualification.* — In order to avail the additional privilege provided in this Act, the following shall be observed:

1. A Solo Parent must serve either as the driver or a passenger in the vehicle and should be capable of presenting a Solo Parent Identification Card (SPIC).

2. In the case of parking areas equipped with automated ticketing machines, the Solo Parent availing the free parking privilege must present their SPIC to the parking attendant at the booth for validation of the documents upon entering or exiting the establishment.

3. Conditional upon parking slot availability, Solo Parents can exercise the additional benefit of complimentary parking on any regular slot, at any level if applicable, within the parking which is offered to the public on a first-come-first-served basis.

4. The parking privilege for Solo Parents shall only apply to the regular operating hours of the commercial or government establishment where the privilege is sought. The privilege herein granted shall not apply to overnight parking.

SECTION 4. All succeeding sections shall be renumbered accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — Relevant agencies in coordination with the stakeholders, covered establishments, and institutions shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this act within Thirty (30) days from promulgation of this Act.

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* — Any portion or provisions of this Act that may be declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions or provisions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, memoranda, circulars, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette, in a newspaper of general circulation, or on a website provided for by law.

Approved,