

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. **10710**



Introduced by Representative Richard I. Gomez, DPA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Identification System (PhilSys), established under Republic Act No. 11055, aims to provide a single, unified, and efficient identification system for all citizens and resident aliens of the Philippines. While the current system significantly enhances identification processes and access to various services, there remains a crucial component that can further improve its utility and security: the inclusion of a visible signature from the ID holder.

This bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 11055 to include a visible signature of the ID holder on the PhilSys ID card. The inclusion of a signature is vital for several reasons. First, it enhances security and verification. A visible signature provides an additional layer of security, allowing easy comparison to signatures provided during transactions, thus reducing the risk of identity fraud and ensuring the authenticity of the ID holder.

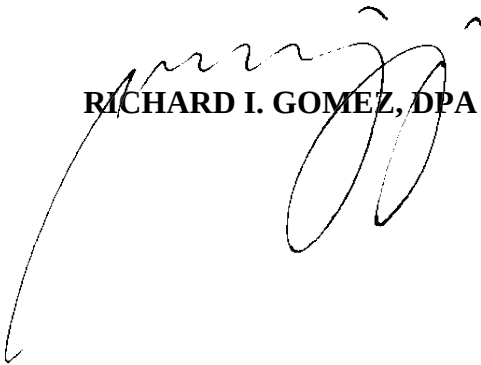
Second, it facilitates legal and financial transactions. In many legal and financial transactions, signatures are required to validate documents and agreements. Lawyers, notaries, and financial institutions often rely on signatures to verify the identity of the individual involved. The presence of a visible signature on the PhilSys ID will streamline these processes, making it more convenient and secure for both the ID holder and the service providers.

Third, it aligns with international standards and practices. Many countries incorporate visible signatures in their national IDs, enhancing the document's acceptance and utility in various international contexts, such as travel and cross-border transactions.

This proposal is grounded in other legal provisions and considerations, such as the Civil Code of the Philippines (Republic Act No. 386) which emphasizes the importance of signatures in verifying the consent and identity of parties involved in agreements, particularly in the provisions relating to contracts and obligations.

The inclusion of a visible signature on the PhilSys ID card is a practical and necessary enhancement that will provide additional security, facilitate legal and financial transactions, and align the Philippine ID system with international standards. This amendment supports the overarching goals of the PhilSys to promote ease of doing business, ensure the security of personal identification, and improve public service delivery.

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



RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA

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**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11055, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"PHILIPPINE IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM ACT," TO INCLUDE A VISIBLE
SIGNATURE OF THE PHILSYS CARDHOLDER**

*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 *This Act shall be known as
the "PhilSys Visible Signature Act."*

SEC. 2. *Amendment to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 11055.* — Section 7 of Republic Act
No. 11055 is hereby amended to read, as follows:

“SEC. 7. *Philippine Identification System Components.* - The PhilSys shall have the
following key components:

"xxx"

"(c) The PhilID. -- A nontransferable card shall preferably be issued to all citizens or
resident aliens registered under the PhilSys subject to the guidelines to be issued by the PSA:

"(1) Features. -- The PhilID shall be the physical medium issued to convey essential
information about the person's identity containing on its face the PSN, full name, sex, blood type,
marital status (optional), place of birth, a front facing photograph, date of birth, SIGNATURE, and
address of the individual in whose favor it was issued. xxx"

"xxx"

SEC. 3. *Amendment to Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11055.* — Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11055 is hereby amended to include a new subsection (f), as follows:

“SEC 8. *PhilSys Registry Data.* -- Information to be collected and stored under the PhilSys shall be limited to the following:

"xxx"

"(C) SIGNATURE."

"xxx."

SEC. 4. *Security Features of the Visible Signature.* — The visible signature shall be integrated with the existing security features of the PhilSys ID, including but not limited to:

- (a) Holographic overlay to prevent forgery;
- (b) Microprinting and fine-line patterns for tamper resistance;
- (c) Biometric verification methods to ensure the signature's authenticity; and
- (d) On-site collection of verified signatures.

SEC. 5. *Data Privacy and Security.* — The implementation of the visible signature shall adhere to the Data Privacy Act of 2012 (Republic Act No. 10173) to ensure the protection of personal data. The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) shall implement measures to safeguard the signature data from unauthorized access and use.

SEC. 6. *Issuance and Renewal.* — The visible signature shall be included in both new issuances and renewals of the PhilSys ID. Existing holders of the PhilSys ID may apply for a reissuance to include the visible signature, subject to guidelines to be established by the PSA.

SEC. 7. *Public Awareness and Education Campaign.* — The PSA, in coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), and other relevant agencies, shall conduct a nationwide information campaign to educate the public about the inclusion of the visible signature in the PhilSys ID and its benefits.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* — The initial funding for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the PSA. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the PSA, in coordination with the DICT and other relevant government agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,