



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **1141**

Introduced by **Hon. Charisse Anne C. Hernandez**



EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed legislation seeks to address the challenges faced by Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) during long-distance travel. Many public buses currently lack facilities that cater to the needs of these vulnerable groups, such as comfort rooms and safety features. This Act supports Republic Act No. 9257 and Republic Act No. 10754, which recognize the rights of Senior Citizens and PWDs to accessible and safe environments.

Senior Citizens often have medical conditions that necessitate immediate access to restroom facilities, while PWDs require safety measures to ensure their security during travel. By mandating the installation of comfort rooms and safety railings in public buses catering to destinations of more than two hours, this Act aims to uphold their rights and improve their travel experience. In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

CHARISSE ANNE C. HERNANDEZ
Representative
Lone District, Calamba City



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AN ACT

MANDATING PUBLIC BUS TRANSPORT CATERING TO DESTINATIONS OF MORE THAN TWO (2) HOURS TO HAVE A PROVISION FOR COMFORT ROOM INSIDE THE BUS AND TO ALLOT A SPACE AND INSTALL SAFETY RAILINGS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

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

Section 1. Title. This Act shall be known as the "Accessible Public Bus Transport Act."

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to recognize the rights of Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) to accessible and safe public transportation, in accordance with Republic Act No. 9257, otherwise known as the "Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003," and Republic Act No. 10754, "An Act Expanding the Benefits and Privileges of

Persons with Disability." This Act aims to ensure their comfort and safety during long-distance travel.

Section 3. Coverage. This Act shall apply to all public buses catering to destinations requiring travel time of more than two (2) hours.

Section 4. Mandatory Installations.

(a) All public buses covered under this Act shall be equipped with a comfort room to cater to passengers, especially Senior Citizens and PWDs, who may have medical conditions requiring immediate access to restroom facilities.

(b) A designated space shall be allotted for Senior Citizens and PWDs, equipped with safety railings to ensure their security and ease of movement within the bus.

Section 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Department of Transportation (DOTr), in coordination with the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) and other relevant agencies, shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Section 6. Penalties. Non-compliance with the provisions of this Act shall result in penalties as prescribed by the DOTr.

Section 7. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 8. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 9. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,