



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1359

Introduced by 4Ps Partylist Representative
JC M. ABALOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide a lifetime validity of identification cards for persons with permanent or temporary disabilities entitled to the privileges accorded them under the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons, or Republic Act No. 7277.

The proposed measure is, in fact, consistent with the law's Declaration of Policy, which asserts that the State will endeavor to eliminate all types of impediments to a disabled person, such as social, cultural, economic, environmental, and attitudinal barriers. A step towards accomplishing this assertion is to prevent situations that will unnecessarily inconvenience our people with disabilities.

Further, stipulated in this proposed measure, IDs to be issued by the local government unit where PWDs reside must be duly certified by the Municipal or City Health Office. It will enable proper assessment and authentication that the applicant is indeed a person with disability. Given that, it is not superfluous to issue them lifetime validity when applying for or renewing their PWD IDs.

As a person with a disability, I deeply understand the distress, pain, and torment that can arise from one's condition. My recent experience renewing my Persons with

Disability (PWD) ID highlighted the significant challenges many PWDs face when applying for or renewing their identification, even in government offices equipped with PWD-friendly facilities. While such facilities are beneficial, they do not fully eliminate obstacles such as difficulties in traveling or commuting, long queues, and the burden of producing recurring documentary requirements for application or renewal.

With these enduring challenges in mind, this Bill seeks to alleviate the concerns of PWDs, sparing them from repeatedly undergoing the same strenuous process when legislative remedies can readily be instituted.

Further, during the 19th Congress, extensive consultations with various stakeholders significantly contributed to the crafting of this legislative measure. The bill was then substituted by House Bill No. 11522 and approved on Second Reading.

Therefore, its immediate passage is earnestly sought.



JC M. ABALOS
Representative
4Ps Partylist



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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR VALIDITY PERIODS OF IDENTIFICATION CARDS ISSUED
TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR
VIOLATIONS THEREOF, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7277, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED
PERSONS", AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 8, Section 32 of Republic Act No. 7277, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons as amended by Republic Act No. 9442, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 32. Persons with [disability] **DISABILITIES** shall be entitled to the following:

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The abovementioned privileges are available only to persons with [disability] **PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY DISABILITIES** who are Filipino citizens, **REFUGEES, OR STATELESS PERSONS** upon submission of [any of the following as proof of his/her entitlement thereto:]

[(I)] An identification card issued by the [city or municipal mayor or the barangay captain] **PERSONS WITH DISABILITY AFFAIRS OFFICE (PDAO) OR A DESIGNATED FOCAL PERSON PERFORMING PDAO FUNCTIONS, DULY SIGNED BY THE CITY OR MUNICIPAL MAYOR** of the place where the persons with [disability] **DISABILITIES** reside[s], **AS PROOF OF THEIR ENTITLEMENT THERETO.**

[(II)]The passport of the persons with disability concerned; or

(III) Transportation discount fare Identification Card (ID) issued by the National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons (NCWDP).]

THE IDENTIFICATION CARDS (IDs) ISSUED TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SHALL CONFORM TO THE UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRESCRIBED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS (NCDA) AND ADOPTED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS.

THE IDS ISSUED TO PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES SHALL BE VALID FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS. CONVERSELY, THE IDS FOR PERSONS WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITIES SHALL BE VALID FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS, AND MAY BE RENEWED ONLY UPON COMPLETION OF REASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROPRIATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

THE IDS, AS PROVIDED IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH SHALL BE FREE OF CHARGE, INCLUDING REISSUANCE DUE TO LOSS OR DAMAGE."

SEC. 2. Section 46 of Republic Act No. 7277, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons as amended by Republic Act No. 9442, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 46. *Penal Clause.*

(b) Any person who abuses the privileges granted [herein shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than six months or a fine of not less than Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00), but not more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court.]
UNDER THIS ACT, INCLUDING:

- 1. MISREPRESENTING THEMSELVES AS PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES;**
- 2. ASSISTING PERSONS WITHOUT DISABILITIES, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, IN FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINING A PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ID CARD;**
- 3. FORGING OR CREATING FAKE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ID CARDS; OR**
- 4. USING THE ID CARD AFTER THE DEATH OF THE HOLDER EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 32 (a) (8) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10754,**

SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00), OR IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO (2) YEARS, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO SUCH OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE, CIVIL, AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY THAT MAY BE INCURRED."

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SEC. 3. The NCDA and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall, in coordination with the Philippine Statistics Authority, the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Professional Regulation Commission, and the Department of Information and Communications Technology, strengthen a unified and reliable data base or registry of persons with disabilities, including a Community-Based Monitoring System.

SEC. 4. Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NCDA and the DSWD shall, in coordination with the DILG, the DOH, other government agencies and stakeholders, issue the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* – The Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,