



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **1915**



Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE FRANZ S. PUMAREN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Representation first filed this measure during the 19th Congress to address the recurring challenges faced by persons with disabilities (PWDs), particularly those with permanent disabilities and elderly PWDs, in renewing their identification cards. The bill successfully reached Second Reading but, due to time constraints and the limited session calendar, was not enacted into law.

Under Administrative Order No. 001, Series of 2008 issued by the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), the Person with Disability Identification Card (PWD-IDC) serves as the standard proof for availing privileges granted under Republic Act No. 7277, otherwise known as the “*Magna Carta for Persons with Disability*.” These privileges include discounts and VAT exemptions on transportation fares, medicines, and medical services.¹

However, under current practice, all PWDs are required to renew their PWD-IDCs every three (3) years. This renewal requirement imposes a significant burden on individuals with permanent disabilities and senior citizens, many of whom face mobility limitations and lack of access to local issuing offices. Despite the provisions of Batas Pambansa Blg. 344, or the *Accessibility Law*, which mandates barrier-free access in public infrastructure, compliance remains inadequate. In a 2015 report by the NCDA, only 40 out of 1,200 inspected local government offices nationwide met the minimum accessibility criteria.²

This bill seeks to address these concerns by granting lifetime validity to PWD-IDCs issued to PWDs with permanent disabilities, as certified by the NCDA; and PWDs who are at least sixty (60) years old.

The lifetime validity shall apply to ID cards issued by:

- The Office of Persons with Disability Affairs (OPDA) or the City/Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO/MSWDO) of the local government unit; and
- The National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA).

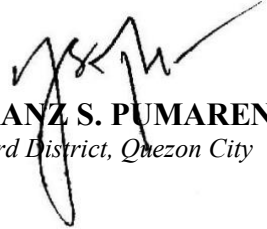
¹ Republic Act No. 7277, *Magna Carta for Persons with Disability*, as amended by RA No. 9442 and RA No. 10754. Official text available at: https://lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra1992/ra_7277_1992.html and NCDA Administrative Order No. 001, s. 2008, *Guidelines on the Issuance of PWD ID Cards*: <https://ncda.gov.ph/disability-laws/national-laws/ncda-administrative-orders/ncda-administrative-order-no-001-series-of-2008/>

² 2015 Accessibility Audit, National Council on Disability Affairs. See summary of findings cited in official NCDA reports: <https://ncda.gov.ph/disability-data/physical-accessibility/>

Relieving affected individuals from the repeated burden of card renewal enables them to focus on living with dignity and equality, as guaranteed by the law. Furthermore, this proposal upholds the constitutional mandate to prioritize the needs of vulnerable sectors, particularly persons with disabilities, under Article XIII, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution.³

Given the compelling need to update and improve the implementation of the Magna Carta for PWDs, and in light of this bill's prior progress in the 19th Congress, this Representation is respectfully refiling this measure in the 20th Congress for its immediate consideration and approval.

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



FRANZ S. PUMAREN
3rd District, Quezon City

³ The 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, Article XIII, Section 11. <https://lawphil.net/consti/cons1987.html>



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **1915**

Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE FRANZ S. PUMAREN

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR LIFETIME VALIDITY OF PERSON WITH DISABILITY
IDENTIFICATION CARDS FOR THOSE WITH PERMANENT DISABILITY OR
ELDERLY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH
DISABILITY,” AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. Section 32 of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, otherwise known as the “Magna Carta for Persons with Disability,” is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 32. Persons with disability shall be entitled to the following:

“x x x

“The abovementioned privileges are available only to PWDs who are Filipino citizens 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 of the place where the PWD resides;

(II) The passport of the PWD concerned; or

(III) Transportation discount fare Identification Card (ID) issued by ~~the [National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons (NCWDP)]~~ **NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS (NCDA).**

“PROVIDED, THAT IDENTIFICATION CARDS, AS MENTIONED IN (I) AND (III) OF THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, ISSUED TO A PWD WHO HAS A PERMANENT DISABILITY, AS DETERMINED BY THE NCDA, OR WHO IS AT LEAST SIXTY (60) YEARS OLD SHALL BE VALID DURING THE LIFETIME OF THE HOLDER:

PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE NCDA, IN CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS, SHALL ISSUE A LIST OF DISABILITIES CONSIDERED AS PERMANENT

FOR THIS PURPOSE WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT:PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT IN CASE OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, THE HOLDER MAY RENEW HIS/HER IDENTIFICATION CARD: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE ISSUING OFFICES SHALL IMPLEMENT MEASURES TO ENSURE THE PROPER USE OF THE IDENTIFICATION CARD, ESPECIALLY IN CASE OF THE ID HOLDER'S DEATH."

"x x x".

SECTION. 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and other concerned government agencies, shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within sixty (60) days upon the effectivity of this Act.

SECTION. 3. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION. 6. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the ‘Lifetime Validity of PWD ID Act.’

SECTION. 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,