

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Bill No. **3059**



Introduced by: Congressman **BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.**

AN ACT
REQUIRING FREE PARKING IN VARIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS SUCH AS
ACCOMMODATIONS, COMMERCIAL SERVICES, FOOD SERVICES,
HEALTH SERVICES, RETAIL SERVICES, AND EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING INDEPENDENT PARKING ENTERPRISES FOR
SENIOR CITIZENS, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AND SOLO PARENTS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men,..."
Galatians 6:10 (KJV)

No less than our Constitution in its Declaration of Principles and State Policies Principles declared that the promotion of the general welfare is essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.¹

The importance of inclusivity and support for marginalized groups cannot be taken lightly. Implementing free parking for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and solo parents is one of the crucial steps toward nurturing an equitable environment. This initiative not only alleviates financial burdens but also enhances accessibility, promoting independence among these groups who often face significant challenges in their daily lives.

Arguably, the economic implications of free parking are profound. Senior citizens and individuals with disabilities frequently operate on fixed incomes due to retirement or limited employment opportunities. By waiving parking fees, it can help alleviate financial strain on these vulnerable populations. For solo parents balancing work and family responsibilities, the added expense of parking can be a significant barrier to accessing essential services such as healthcare and education. Providing free parking acknowledges their struggles and offers tangible support that can improve their quality of life.

¹ Sec. 5 Art. II, 1987 Constitution.

Furthermore, enhancing accessibility is paramount in ensuring that all community members can participate fully in society. Free parking for these specific groups would lead to increased mobility and social interaction, which are vital for mental health and well-being. It encourages seniors to engage more actively with their communities while allowing individuals with disabilities easier access to necessary facilities without the worry of additional costs. Similarly, solo parents would benefit from reduced logistical hurdles when attending appointments or extracurricular activities with their children.

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



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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “**Free Parking Act of 2025.**”

SEC. 2 *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to prioritize public safety and public welfare, as well as to protect the interests and promote the general welfare of consumers while allowing a reasonable return on investment.

Towards this end, the State shall promulgate measures that will address issues of accessibility and economic inequality among the marginalized sector of our society, that guarantee everyone has a fair opportunity to prosper.

SEC. 3 *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act, the following terms are defined as follows:

- (a) *Accommodation establishments* – refer to hotels, motels, hostels, inns, resorts, lodging facilities, and all other establishments that offer accommodation facilities for lease.
- (b) *Corporate offices or facilities* -- refer to all other public and private facilities that serve the general public, which are not accommodation establishments, food service establishments, health service establishments, retail establishments, including but not limited to government and private offices.

- (c) *Covered establishments* -- refer to accommodation establishments; corporate Offices or facilities, food service establishments, health service establishments, retail establishments, and all other similar establishments, whether government-owned or privately owned, including independent parking enterprises that charge a parking fee for the use of their parking spaces.
- (d) *Educational institutions* -- refer to public or private schools, including daycare or childcare centers, preschools, nursery, kindergarten, elementary, secondary, tertiary or college, higher education institutions, universities, training institutions, and other learning facilities providing formal and informal education and training.
- (e) *Food service establishments* -- refer to restaurants, food parks, or any other establishments where food is prepared or served, which are independent from existing retail establishments.
- (f) *Health service establishments* -- refer to hospitals, clinics, and other establishments that provide health services, which are independent from existing retail establishments.
- (g) *Independent parking enterprises* -- refer to establishments, whether government-owned or privately owned, whose primary business is to provide parking spaces and charge a corresponding parking fee for their use.
- (h) *Retail establishments* -- refer to establishments open to the general public or selected members of the general public for the sale of goods and services, including but not limited to, shopping malls, retail stores, supermarkets, shops, and other similar establishments.
- (i) *Parking fee* -- refers to the amount paid or charged for the use of a parking space in a covered establishment.
- (j) *Senior Citizen* -- refers to an individual who may be a driver, passenger, or owner of the motor or electric vehicle who is at least sixty (60) years old and is a resident of the Philippines.
- (k) *Person with disability or (PWD)* -- refers to an individual who may be a driver, passenger, or owner of the motor or electric vehicle with physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, as defined by Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities.

- (l) *Solo Parent* – as defined by Republic Act 11861, also known as the Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act, who may be a driver, passenger, or owner of the motor or electric vehicle.

SEC. 4 *Coverage of this Act* – This Act shall cover all parking facilities of covered establishments that impose parking fees for all types of motor or electric vehicles, such as but not limited to bicycles, motorcycles, e-bikes, and motor vehicles.

SEC. 5 *Free Parking Requirements* – All establishments under this Act shall provide free parking for senior citizens, PWDs, and solo parents, provided that they shall be required to present a specific ID. Senior citizen ID for senior citizens, PWD ID for PWDs, and Solo Parent ID for Solo parents.

SEC. 6 *Penalties* – Any establishment under this Act that violates the provisions shall be fined not less than Php 100,000 but not more than Php 300,000 for the first offense, and not less than Php 200,000 but not more than Php 400,000 for subsequent offenses. Repeat offenders may also face revocation of their business permit.

SEC. 7 *Exceptions* – Commercial establishments with less than fifty (50) parking spaces shall be exempted.

SEC. 8 *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), in consultation with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and other concerned agencies, shall issue necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 9 *Review* – The DTI, DILG, and other concerned government agencies, in consultation with the owners of the parking areas and other stakeholders, shall review

SEC. 10 *Repealing Clause.* All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11 *Separability Clause.* In case any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue in full force and effect.

SEC. 12 *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) *days* after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, whichever is earlier.

Approved.