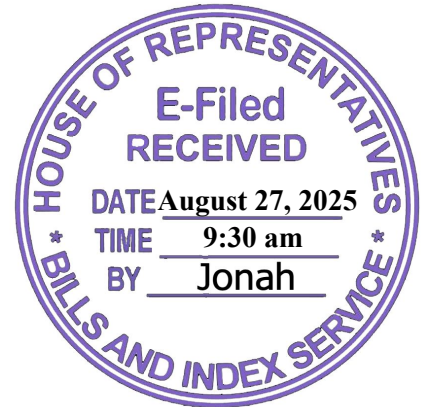


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. **4052**



Introduced by Representatives EDVIC G. YAP and ERIC G. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Accessing medical care and services is already a challenge in the country, which is why people rely on financial assistance from the government. Unfortunately, the very process of availing such aid is often slowed down by too much paperwork and complicated steps in government offices. For many Filipinos and their families, the burden of submitting numerous documents and different sets of requirements defeats the very purpose of emergency assistance.

This bill seeks to institutionalize the simplification of documentary requirements and streamline procedures for accessing financial aid provided by government agencies such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), and PhilHealth, among others.

Under the proposed "Simplified Government Aid Access Act," beneficiaries would only be required to present three core documents to avail of immediate financial assistance: a valid government-issued ID, a billing statement from the relevant service provider (e.g., hospital or funeral parlor), and an endorsement or referral from a city or municipal social welfare office. For those who are unable to apply personally, a representative may do so on their behalf, provided they are a close relative or legal guardian.

At its core, this bill affirms that government support should be easier to access, especially during times of need. It emphasizes the importance of efficient public service delivery, particularly for the underprivileged who rely on timely aid to get through their emergencies.

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



HON. EDVIC G. YAP



HON. ERIC G. YAP

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **4052**

Introduced by Representatives EDVIC G. YAP and ERIC G. YAP

AN ACT
SIMPLIFYING THE DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS
FOR ACCESSING GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 "*Simplified Government Aid Access Act.*"

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to promote the general welfare of Filipino people by ensuring that individuals and families experiencing difficult situations are provided with timely and accessible financial assistance. Towards this end, the government shall adopt measures to remove excessive documentary requirements and streamline procedures for availing aid from government agencies.

SEC 3. *Scope and Coverage.* - This Act shall apply to all national and local government agencies and instrumentalities, including but not limited to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), and PhilHealth, which provide medical, burial, and similar forms of financial assistance.

SEC 4. *Standardized Minimum Requirements.* - To avail of immediate financial assistance, beneficiaries in need shall only be required to submit the following documents:

1. Valid government-issued identification card (ID);
2. Billing statement from the hospital, clinic, funeral parlor, or related entities; and
3. Referral or endorsement letter issued by the City or Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO/MSWDO) or duly authorized local social worker.

In cases where the request of assistance is made through a representative, such representative shall present an authorization letter duly signed by the beneficiary, along with a valid government-issued ID of both the beneficiary and the representative. The authorized representative must be a relative of the beneficiary within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity, or a legal guardian. Provided, that no individual shall act as a representative for more than two (2) beneficiaries to whom they are not related.

SEC 5. *Streamlined Processing.* – All government agencies concerned shall process requests for assistance within three (3) working days upon submission of complete requirements under Section 4 of this Act.

SEC 6. *Coordination with the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA).*– The DSWD and all implementing agencies shall coordinate with the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) to ensure full compliance with Republic Act No. 9485, as amended also known as the Anti-Red Tape Act. They shall likewise work with ARTA to address complaints involving undue delays, excessive documentary requirements, or any form of non-compliance with the provisions of this Act.

SEC 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DSWD, in coordination with ARTA, DOH, PCSO, PhilHealth, and the DILG, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision or part of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions and parts hereof, insofar as they are separable from the invalid ones, shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *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