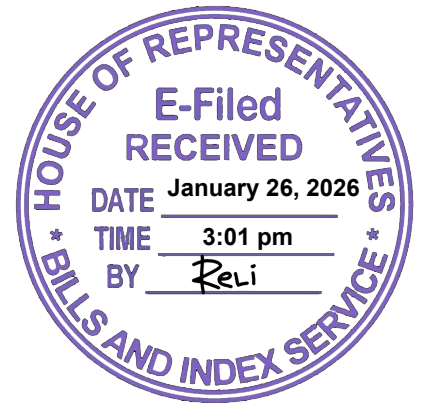


TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE BILL No. 7310

Introduced by **REP. CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA-LIM**

AN ACT EXEMPTING SENIOR CITIZENS, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AND SOLO PARENTS FROM PAYING PARKING FEES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 10 of the 1987 Constitution mandates the State to promote social justice in all phases of national development and to value the dignity of every human person.¹ In line with this constitutional policy, the State has enacted several laws to protect and uplift vulnerable sectors of society, including Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the “Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010,”² Republic Act No. 10754, expanding the benefits and privileges of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs),³ and Republic Act No. 11861, or the “Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act.”⁴

Notwithstanding these legislative measures, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and solo parents continue to encounter daily difficulties in mobility and access to basic services, particularly in highly urbanized areas where parking fees impose an added financial burden. Parking facilities are essential to enable access to hospitals, government offices, workplaces, schools, and commercial establishments. The cost of parking, though seemingly minimal, accumulates and significantly affects these sectors who already face economic and physical constraints.

This bill seeks to exempt senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and solo parents from the payment of parking fees in both government-owned and privately-owned parking facilities open to the public, subject to reasonable regulations and the presentation of valid identification cards, as a concrete measure to ease their daily expenses and to recognize their special needs and contributions to society.⁵

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


CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA-LIM
DUMPER PTDA Party-List

¹1987 Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 10.
²R.A. No. 9994.
³R.A. No. 10754.
⁴R.A. No. 11861.
⁵1987 Constitution, Art. XIII, Sec. 1.

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Priority Parking Fee Exemption Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote social justice and to protect and enhance the welfare of senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and solo parents by providing them with benefits that improve their mobility, accessibility, and quality of life.

SEC. 3. Coverage of Free Parking Privilege. – Senior citizens as defined under Republic Act No. 9994, persons with disabilities under Republic Act No. 10754, and solo parents under Republic Act No. 11861 shall be exempt from paying parking fees in all government-owned and privately-owned parking facilities open to the public, including but not limited to those located in shopping malls, hospitals, airports, seaports, transport terminals, educational institutions, and business establishments.

SEC. 4. Conditions for Availment. – The free parking privilege shall be granted under the following conditions:

- (a) The senior citizen, person with disability, or solo parent is the driver or an occupant of the vehicle; and
- (b) A valid Senior Citizen ID, PWD ID, or Solo Parent ID, as the case may be, is presented upon entry or exit.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in coordination with the Department of Transportation (DOTr), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), and the Local Government Units (LGUs), shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 6. Penalties. – Any person or establishment that refuses to grant the parking fee exemption provided under this Act shall be subject to the penalties

prescribed under existing laws and regulations, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate civil or administrative actions.

SEC. 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.

SEC. 8. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 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,