



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7429



**Introduced by Ako Bicol Partylist Representative Jan Franz Norbert Joselito
Almario Chan and Hon. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Across the country, millions of senior citizens and persons with permanent disabilities continue to endure a burden that should not exist. They are required to renew identification cards for conditions that are permanent and irreversible. Seniors who can barely walk are asked to queue for hours simply to prove, again, that they are elderly. Families caring for children with autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, blindness, neurological disorders, or other lifelong disabilities must repeatedly secure the same medical certifications to confirm conditions that will never improve and will never disappear.

This bill confronts a quiet but very real hardship. Because national laws do not explicitly mandate lifetime validity for these identification cards, many local government units impose expiration dates and renewal cycles that treat permanent disabilities as if they were temporary, and treat old age as something that must be periodically revalidated. These requirements are especially punishing for individuals who are bedridden, immunocompromised, or living in remote communities, and for families who already bear the daily weight of caregiving.

The result is a cycle of unnecessary travel, repeated medical evaluations, logistical difficulties, and financial strain. For many households, the renewal of a PWD ID or a senior citizen ID is not a simple errand. It is a disruptive and exhausting process that they must endure solely because the law remains silent on what should have been a clear and humane policy from the beginning.

Permanent disabilities do not expire. Senior citizenship does not expire. The commitment of the State to protect and support its most vulnerable citizens should not be limited by administrative requirements that ignore medical reality and the lived experiences of Filipino families.

This measure seeks to establish lifetime validity for all Senior Citizen Identification Cards and for all PWD Identification Cards issued to individuals with medically certified permanent disabilities. It also provides a reasonable validity period for temporary disabilities while maintaining the integrity of identification systems. Most importantly, it creates a uniform national standard so that no local government can impose burdens that contradict the intent of the law.

This reform is simple but essential. It removes a barrier that has caused years of avoidable suffering. It restores dignity to seniors and persons with permanent disabilities. It relieves their families of recurring administrative demands. And it aligns government processes with common sense, compassion, and medical truth.

For these reasons, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



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Representative
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HOUSE BILL NO. **7429**

**Introduced by Ako Bicol Partylist Representative Jan Franz Norbert Joselito
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**AN ACT PROVIDING LIFETIME VALIDITY FOR SENIOR CITIZEN
IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND FOR PERSONS WITH PERMANENT
DISABILITIES, RATIONALIZING THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF
IDENTIFICATION CARDS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

SEC. 1. Short Title. –

This Act shall be known as the “*Lifetime Senior and PWD ID Act.*”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.–

It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the dignity, welfare, and rights of senior citizens and persons with disabilities. The State recognizes that old age is permanent and irreversible, and that many disabilities are lifelong, incurable, or non-progressing conditions that do not require repeated medical reassessment. It is therefore the duty of the State to remove unnecessary administrative burdens that hinder access to benefits, impose physical hardship, or create barriers for elderly Filipinos and persons with permanent disabilities.

The State shall ensure that identification systems for senior citizens and persons with disabilities are humane, simplified, consistent across local government units, and fully aligned with medical realities and the lived experiences of Filipino families.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.–

For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- (a) “**Senior Citizen**” refers to any resident citizen of the Philippines who is sixty years old or above, as provided in Republic Act No. 9994, or as may be amended by law.
- (b) “**Senior Citizen Identification Card**” refers to the official identification document issued by local government units under RA 9994 that entitles senior citizens to benefits, discounts, and privileges.
- (c) “**Person with Disability (PWD)**” refers to any individual with a physical, mental, intellectual, sensory, neurological, or developmental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, as recognized under RA 7277, as amended, or as may hereafter be defined by subsequent legislation.
- (d) “**Permanent Disability**” refers to medically certified condition that is lifelong, irreversible, incurable, non-progressing, or of such nature that it will not improve or resolve over time. It includes, but is not limited to, congenital conditions, limb loss or amputation, blindness or permanent visual impairment, permanent hearing impairment, intellectual disability, autism and other neurodevelopmental conditions, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, permanent mobility impairments, neurological degenerative diseases, chronic or incurable illnesses, and any other disability identified by competent medical professionals as permanent in nature.
- (e) “**PWD Identification Card**” refers to the identification card issued by local government units for persons with disabilities pursuant to RA 7277, as amended.

SEC. 4. Lifetime Validity of Senior Citizen Identification Cards.–

Senior Citizen Identification Cards issued pursuant to Republic Act No. 9994 shall be valid for the lifetime of the holder. No local government unit, agency, office, or entity shall impose expiration dates, renewal requirements, or periodic revalidation for such identification cards, except in cases of loss, damage, or material change in personal information. Replacement of the identification card shall not constitute a renewal and shall not require reassessment or revalidation of the senior citizen status.

SEC. 5. Lifetime Validity of PWD Identification Cards for Permanent Disabilities.–

PWD Identification Cards issued to persons with medically certified permanent disabilities, as defined under this Act, shall be valid for the lifetime of the holder. No renewal, reassessment, or repeated medical certification shall be required for conditions classified as permanent. Replacement of the identification card due to loss, damage, or clerical correction shall not be considered a renewal and shall not require additional medical documentation.

SEC. 6. Uniform Application Nationwide.–

All local government units, including barangays, municipalities, cities, and provinces, as well as all national government agencies and instrumentalities, shall comply with the provisions of this Act. No LGU or agency shall impose requirements, expiration dates, renewal processes, verification procedures, or revalidation practices inconsistent with the lifetime validity mandated herein.

SEC. 7. Revocation and Automatic Cancellation of Identification Cards.

The lifetime validity of Senior Citizen Identification Cards and PWD Identification Cards under this Act shall not prevent the government from revoking or cancelling such cards for lawful and clearly defined reasons. An identification card issued under this Act shall be revoked or automatically cancelled in any of the following instances:

- (a) Death of the cardholder, upon verification through the Philippine Statistics Authority, the Local Civil Registrar, the Philippine Identification System, or any official government database.
- (b) Fraud, falsification, or misuse, including but not limited to the use of another person's identification card or the intentional submission of materially false information during application.
- (c) Erroneous issuance, where the card was issued despite the absence of qualification at the time of application, as certified in writing by the LGU or issuing authority.
- (d) Material change in status, such as the medical determination that a previously classified permanent disability was incorrectly certified.

Revocation under this section shall not be used as a ground to impose periodic renewal, revalidation, or reassessment of senior citizens or persons with permanent disabilities whose conditions remain unchanged.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), the Department of Health (DOH), and all LGUs shall establish a uniform system for reporting, verification, and cancellation, with safeguards to prevent arbitrary or erroneous revocation.

SEC. 8. Prohibited Acts.–

The following acts are prohibited under this Act:

- (a) Imposing expiration dates, renewal requirements, revalidation procedures, reassessment, or periodic medical recertification on Senior Citizen Identification Cards or PWD Identification Cards issued for permanent disabilities.
- (b) Requiring personal appearance for renewal or reassessment when no renewal is legally required, except for voluntary replacement due to loss, damage, or correction of personal information.
- (c) Refusing to honor a lifetime-valid Senior Citizen or PWD Identification Card on the ground that it does not contain an expiration date or on the ground that the cardholder has not undergone renewal.
- (d) Implementing local ordinances, memoranda, or administrative rules that contradict or undermine the lifetime validity mandated by this Act.
- (e) Knowingly issuing, using, or presenting falsified identification cards, fraudulent medical certifications, or materially false information for the purpose of obtaining or retaining benefits under this Act.

SEC. 9. Penalties.—

- (a) ***Administrative Liability.*** Any public officer, employee, or LGU personnel who violates Section 8(a), 8(b), 8(c), or 8(d) of this Act shall be subject to administrative sanctions, including suspension, removal, or other disciplinary actions under existing civil service rules, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate criminal or civil cases.
- (b) ***Criminal Liability for Fraud.*** Any person who commits fraud under Section 8(e) of this Act shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than six (6) months and not more than two (2) years, or a fine of not less than ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) and not more than one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court.
- (c) ***Revocation of Illegally Obtained IDs.*** Any identification card obtained through fraud, falsification, or the submission of materially false information shall be cancelled without prejudice to the penalties provided herein.

SEC. 10. Appropriations.—

The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (“*DSWD*”), the National Council on Disability Affairs (“*NCDA*”), and other implementing agencies. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations.—

Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (“*DSWD*”), in coordination with the National Council on

Disability Affairs (“*NCDA*”), the Department of Health (“*DOH*”), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (“*DILG*”), and the Philippine Statistics Authority (“*PSA*”), shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

The IRR shall include standardized formats, reporting mechanisms, and procedures for issuance, replacement, revocation, and nationwide recognition of the identification cards covered by this Act.

SEC. 12. Separability Clause.—

If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 13. Repealing Clause.—

All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, regulations, and other issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. Effectivity.—

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.