

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 7813



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**Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

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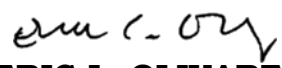
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The travel tax was imposed under Presidential Decree No. 1183 and later reaffirmed under Section 73 of Republic Act No. 9593 to fund tourism development and related programs.

While well-intentioned, the continued imposition of the travel tax places an additional financial burden on Filipino travelers, including Overseas Filipino Workers, students, and families traveling for essential purposes. In today's economic environment, mobility and global engagement should be facilitated rather than penalized.

This bill abolishes the travel tax and shifts the funding of concerned agencies to the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA), thereby maintaining support for tourism, education, and cultural programs while promoting fiscal transparency and congressional oversight.

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

  
**ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

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**AN ACT  
ABOLISHING THE TRAVEL TAX**

*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 “*Travel Tax Abolition Act of 2026.*”

**SECTION 2. Repealing Clause.** The State hereby abolishes the travel tax as imposed under Presidential Decree No. 1183, as amended, and Section 73 of Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as the “Tourism Act of 2009”.

All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations imposing, authorizing the imposition of, or governing the collection and disposition of the travel tax which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. Prohibition and Refund.** No government agency or private entity shall collect travel taxes upon the effectivity of this Act. For flights scheduled on or after the date of effectivity, the collecting authority shall immediately refund any previously paid travel taxes to the passenger.

**SECTION 4. Budget and Alternative Funding.** To ensure the continuity of programs previously funded by travel tax collections, the national government shall provide the necessary funding for the following agencies through the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA):

1. The Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) for tourism development projects;
2. The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for tourism-related higher education development funds; and
3. The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) for the National Endowment Fund for Culture and the Arts.

**SECTION 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the TIEZA, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the efficient implementation of the tax refund and the transition to GAA-based funding.

**SECTION 6. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 7. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*