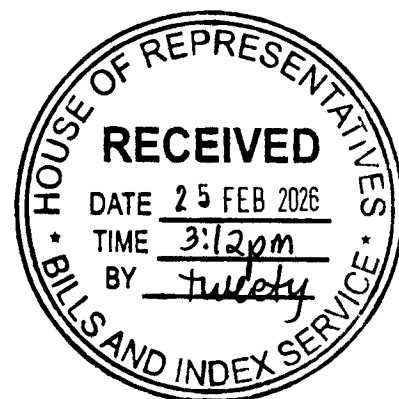


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

House Bill No. 8088



Introduced by Representative Timothy Joseph Cayton

"AN ACT PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT MEASURES FOR SOLO PARENTS THROUGH ACCESSIBILITY BENEFITS, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKING FEE EXEMPTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Solo parents represent one of the most resilient yet economically vulnerable sectors. Tasked with the sole responsibility of raising and providing for their children, they face compounded financial, emotional, and logistical burdens in their daily lives. While the passage of Republic Act No. 11861, otherwise known as the Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act, significantly strengthened social protection mechanisms for solo parents, there remains a need to introduce practical and accessibility-based support measures that ease their day-to-day mobility and financial strain.

One recurring and often overlooked burden faced by solo parents is the cost associated with accessing essential establishments such as hospitals, schools, government offices, transport terminals, and commercial centers. Parking fees, though seemingly minimal, accumulate and impose additional expenses on solo parents who must frequently travel for work, child care, medical needs, and educational obligations.

This Act seeks to complement and reinforce existing benefits under RA 11861 by providing parking fee exemption in covered establishments, thereby reducing incidental but recurring costs and recognizing the unique mobility demands placed upon solo parents. The exemption is carefully structured to prevent abuse by requiring the presentation of a valid Solo Parent ID and limiting the privilege to cases where the solo parent is the driver or occupant of the vehicle.

Beyond accessibility benefits, this Act reiterates and strengthens the State's commitment to ensuring that solo parents continue to enjoy flexible work arrangements, parental leave benefits, priority access to social services, educational assistance, and other protections already guaranteed under existing laws. By

institutionalizing accessibility-based support alongside social welfare mechanisms, this Act advances a more holistic and responsive framework for solo parent protection.

Supporting solo parents is not merely an act of compassion; it is an investment in family stability, child development, and national productivity.

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



HON. TIMOTHY JOSEPH CAYTON
Representative
Lone District, Nueva Vizcaya

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* — This Act shall be known as the ***“Solo Parent Accessibility and Welfare Support Act of 2026.”***

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the welfare and social justice of vulnerable sectors including solo parents; to ensure accessibility and mobility of solo parents without imposing undue financial burdens; and to enhance social protection and inclusive benefits in line with RA 11861 and other relevant laws.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* — For purposes of this Act:

- a) **Solo Parent** — refers to an individual as defined under RA 11861, who exercises sole parental care and support.
- b) **Parking Fee** — refers to any fee charged for the use of a parking space in establishments open to the public.
- c) **Covered Establishments** — include all government-owned and privately-owned parking facilities, public and private hospitals, schools, commercial centers, airports, seaports, transport terminals, and similar establishments.

SEC. 4. *Parking Fee Exemption for Solo Parents*—

4.1 Coverage

Solo parents shall be exempt from paying parking fees in all covered establishments. They may avail the privilege provided they present valid government identification (Solo Parent ID).

4.2 Conditions

The person must be the driver or occupant of the vehicle. A valid ID must be presented upon entry or exit.

SEC. 5. *Expanded Solo Parent Support Measures.* — Solo parents shall also continue to enjoy the following benefits consistent with RA 11861:

- a) Flexible Work Arrangements and priority telecommuting options where feasible.
- b) Parental Leave Benefits for solo parent employees.
- c) Priority Access to Social Services, including counseling, livelihood programs, subsidies, and government housing programs.
- d) Discounts and Exemptions on basic child needs and medicines based on existing solo parent benefit guidelines.
- e) Educational Assistance for solo parents and their dependents. (Implementation of these shall be subject to the rules and conditions provided in RA 11861.)

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules & Regulations.* — The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in coordination with the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Local Government Units (LGUs), and other relevant agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Penalties.* — Any person or establishment that refuses to comply with the parking exemption provisions of this Act shall be subject to:

- a) A fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱100,000) but not more than Three Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱300,000) for the first offense;
- b) For subsequent violations, fines shall increase accordingly and may include administrative penalties as prescribed by implementing rules.

SEC. 8. *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. 9. *Repealing Clause.* — Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation, contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,