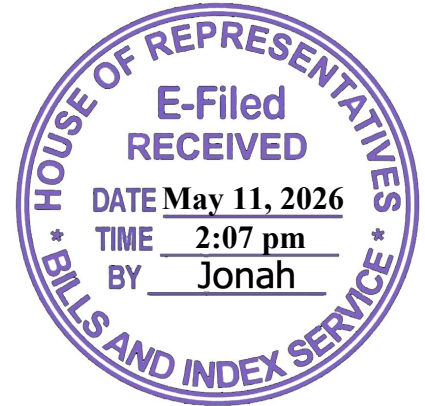


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **9178**



Introduced by **Rep. BEVERLEY ROSE A. DIMACUHA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The public demands fast and efficient service not only from the private sector, but most importantly from government. In fact, people have higher expectations from government with regard to providing services. It is for this reason that Republic Act No. 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 was enacted into law. Clearly, streamlining government processes is a priority of any administration.

With the developments in the field of information technology, government processes can now easily be improved with appropriate legislation, strict implementation, and proper technology on information sharing. However, Filipinos in need of government aid still encounter delays in receiving assistance due to redundant or excessive documentary requirements, tedious procedures, long processing times and even the lack of availability of funds.

To further remove administrative roadblocks from our countrymen in need of aid, this bill seeks to streamline the process / procedures and reduce the excessive requirements needed to avail of all applicable government aid or assistance. Moreover, this bill seeks to utilize digital systems to facilitate requests and processes for government aid or assistance.

By adopting simplified and standardized procedures and requirements, the process of securing government aid need not be stressful.

Hence, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


BEVERLEY ROSE A. DIMACUHA

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House Bill No. **9178**

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AN ACT
SIMPLIFYING PROCEDURES AND REDUCING DOCUMENTARY
REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCESSING GOVERNMENT AID OR 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 "Simplified Access to Aid Act".

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy that the State shall prioritize the needs of the underprivileged and ensure that social services are accessible and responsive. Moreover, the state shall ensure that individuals and families in difficult situations are provided with timely and accessible assistance.

To this end, the State shall adopt measures to streamline procedures and remove excessive documentary requirements for availing aid and assistance from government agencies. This affirms the mandate of the State to service with utmost responsibility and efficiency.

Section. 3. Scope and Coverage. - This Act shall apply to all national government agencies and instrumentalities that has social amelioration programs, including but not limited to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), and Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR).

Section. 4. Streamlined Procedures and Standardized Requirements – All government agencies with social amelioration programs shall further streamline the procedures and minimize documentary requirements in order to facilitate the speedy processing and release of requested assistance. Moreover, all implementing agencies shall coordinate with the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) to enhance compliance with Republic Act No. 9485, as amended by Republic Act No. 11032 or the "Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018" and shall likewise coordinate and cooperate with ARTA to address complaints involving

undue delays, excessive documentary requirements, or other forms of non-compliance with the provisions of this Act. Lastly, the Commission on Audit (COA) shall provide updated audit guidelines based on the least or minimum documentation needed for compliance vis-à-vis release or granting of aid or assistance.

All concerned government agencies shall process requests for assistance immediately: *Provided*, That complete documentary requirements are submitted during official working hours. Requests submitted on weekends, holidays, or outside official working hours shall be processed on the next working day.

Section. 5. Digital Requests for Government Aid - The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall be primarily tasked to develop the appropriate digital systems or platforms as may be prescribed in the implementing rules and regulations, as a mechanism for Filipinos to avail aid from government agencies, either in cash or non-cash format.

Section. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) in coordination with DSWD, DOH, DOLE, TESDA, PCSO, PAGCOR, and the Department of the Interior and Local Government, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations.

Section. 7. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions and parts hereof not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section. 8. 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.

Section. 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,