

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9278



Introduced by Lone District of Agusan del Norte Representative
HON. DALE B. CORVERA

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE ISSUANCE, VALIDITY, AND REGULATION OF
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IDENTIFICATION CARDS, PRESCRIBING
PENALTIES FOR ABUSE THEREOF, AND AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO.
7277, AS AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Republic Act No. 7277, as amended by Republic Act No. 9442 and Republic Act No. 10754, affirms the State's commitment to uphold the rights, dignity, and welfare of persons with disabilities (PWDs). Central to this framework is the grant of privileges and support services that enable PWDs to participate fully in society.

However, persistent challenges—particularly the misuse and fraudulent issuance of PWD identification cards—have undermined the effective implementation of the law. The lack of standardized issuance, inconsistent validity periods, and weak enforcement mechanisms has led to abuse, ultimately depriving legitimate PWDs of their rightful benefits.¹

This measure seeks to amend Sections 32 and 46 of Republic Act No. 7277 by establishing clear and uniform rules on the issuance, validity, and security of PWD IDs. It introduces differentiated validity periods—ten (10) years for persons with permanent disabilities and one (1) year for those with temporary disabilities, subject to reassessment—ensuring both practicality and accountability.

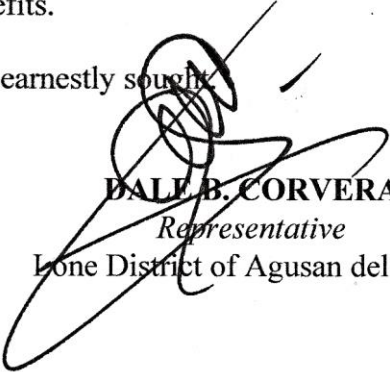
The bill further mandates a uniform ID design prescribed by the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) and adopted nationwide by local government units, enhancing recognition and reducing fraud. It also strengthens penal provisions by imposing stricter penalties on individuals who falsify or misuse PWD IDs, as well as on public officials who facilitate such acts. Offenses committed through digital platforms shall likewise be prosecuted under Republic Act No. 10175.

To support effective implementation, the measure provides for a strengthened and unified PWD database through coordination among key agencies, aligned with the Community-Based Monitoring System under Republic Act No. 11315, to improve data accuracy, planning, and service delivery.²

This proposed legislation builds on prior legislative efforts and addresses the burden of frequent ID renewal, particularly for PWDs with permanent disabilities and limited mobility—an issue compounded by gaps in accessibility despite the mandate of Batas Pambansa Blg. 344.³

The approval of the measure will strengthen safeguards, improve systems, and reinforce accountability to protect the integrity of PWD benefits.

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



DALE B. CORVERA
Representative
Lone District of Agusan del Norte

¹ National Council on Disability Affairs reports and policy discussions on misuse of PWD IDs.

² Republic Act No. 11315.

³ Batas Pambansa Blg. 344 compliance reports.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 8, Section 32 of Republic Act No. 7277, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for [Disabled] Persons with Disabilities as amended by Republic Act No. 9442, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“**SEC. 32.** Persons with [disability] **DISABILITIES** shall be entitled to the following:

xxx xxx xxx

The abovementioned privileges are available only to persons with [disability] **PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY DISABILITIES** who are Filipino citizens, **REFUGEES, OR STATELESS PERSONS** upon submission of [any of the following as proof of his/her entitlement thereto:]

[**(I)**] An identification card issued by the [city or municipal mayor or the barangay captain] **PERSONS WITH DISABILITY AFFAIRS OFFICE (PDAO) OR A DESIGNATED FOCAL PERSON PERFORMING PDAO FUNCTIONS, DULY SIGNED BY THE CITY OR MUNICIPAL MAYOR** of the place where the persons with [disability] **DISABILITIES** reside[s], **AS PROOF OF THEIR ENTITLEMENT THERETO.**

[**(II)**] The passport of the persons with disability concerned; or

[**(III)**] Transportation discount fare Identification Card (ID) issued by the National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons (NCWDP).]

THE IDENTIFICATION CARDS (IDs) ISSUED TO PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES SHALL CONFORM TO THE UNIVERSAL DESIGN

PRESCRIBED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS (NCDA) AND ADOPTED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs).

THE IDs ISSUED TO PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES SHALL BE VALID FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS. CONVERSELY, THE IDs FOR PERSONS WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITIES SHALL BE VALID FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR, AND MAY BE RENEWED ONLY UPON COMPLETION OF REASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY AN APPROPRIATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

THE IDs, AS PROVIDED IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH SHALL BE FREE OF CHARGE, INCLUDING REISSUANCE DUE TO LOSS OR DAMAGE.”

SEC. 2. Section 46 of Republic Act No. 7277, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons as amended by Republic Act No. 9442, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 46. *Penal Clause.* - xxx xxx xxx

(b) Any person who abuses the privileges granted [herein shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than six months or a fine of not less than Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00), but not more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court.] **UNDER THIS ACT, INCLUDING:**

- 1. MISREPRESENTING THEMSELVES AS PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES;**
- 2. ASSISTING PERSONS WITHOUT DISABILITIES, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, IN FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINING A PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ID CARD;**
- 3. FORGING OR CREATING FAKE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ID CARDS; OR**
- 4. USING THE ID CARD AFTER THE DEATH OF THE HOLDER EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 32 (a) (8) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10754,**

SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00), OR IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO (2) YEARS, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO SUCH OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE, CIVIL, AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY THAT MAY BE INCURRED.”

IF THE OFFENDER IS A PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL, THEY SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY OF PRISIÓN CORRECCIONAL IN ITS MEDIUM TO MAXIMUM PERIODS AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (₱50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (₱100,000.00), WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO PROSECUTION UNDER OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ARTICLES 171 AND 172 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE ON THE FALSIFICATION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

IF THE OFFENDER IS A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE WHO, IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITY, KNOWINGLY ISSUES OR FACILITATES THE ISSUANCE OF A FRAUDULENT OR FAKE PWD IDENTIFICATION CARD, THEY SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY OF PRISIÓN MAYOR IN ITS MINIMUM TO MEDIUM PERIODS, PERPETUAL DISQUALIFICATION FROM PUBLIC OFFICE, AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (₱100,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (₱200,000.00), WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO PROSECUTION FOR OTHER APPLICABLE CRIMES UNDER THE REVISED PENAL CODE AND SPECIAL LAWS, INCLUDING THE ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT.

IF THE ACTS OF FALSIFICATION, SALE, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF FAKE PWD IDENTIFICATION CARDS ARE COMMITTED THROUGH INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO WEBSITES, SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS, MESSAGING APPLICATIONS, OR E-COMMERCE PLATFORMS, THE OFFENDER SHALL BE PROSECUTED AND PENALIZED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10175, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “CYBERCRIME PREVENTION ACT OF 2012,” IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES PROVIDED UNDER THIS ACT AND THE REVISED PENAL CODE.

XXX XXX XXX

SEC. 3. The NCDA shall, in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Philippine Statistics Authority, Department of Health, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Information and Communications Technology, Professional Regulation Commission, National Anti-Poverty – Persons with Disability Sector, National Privacy Commission, strengthen a unified persons with disabilities identification card system, including a Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS).

SEC. 4. Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NCDA and the DSWD shall, in coordination with the DILG, the DOH, other government agencies and stakeholders, issue the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, ordinances, other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,