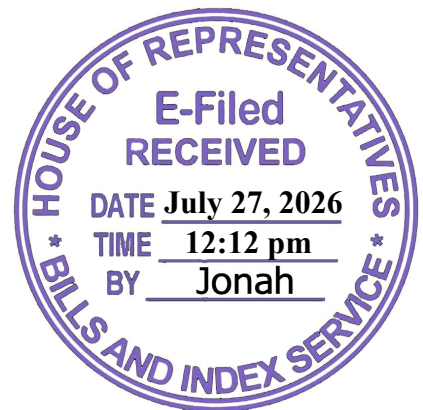


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**House Bill No. 10241**



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Introduced by **REP. JAVIER MIGUEL L. BENITEZ**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 7277 (1992), otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Persons with Disability, recognizes the rights of Persons with Disabilities (“PWDs”) and guarantees their access to programs, services, and privileges that promote their welfare, inclusion, and participation in society. These benefits are largely accessed through the PWD Identification Card (“IDC”) issued by local government units. However, under existing practice, PWD-IDCs are subject to periodic renewal regardless of whether the disability is temporary or permanent. Currently, the PWD-IDC issued to the PWD shall be valid for five (5) years.<sup>1</sup> For persons with permanent disabilities, this requirement often results in unnecessary expenses, repeated medical certification, and additional administrative procedures despite the lifelong and irreversible nature of their condition. The burden is particularly felt by individuals with mobility limitations, those residing in remote areas, and indigent PWDs who rely on uninterrupted access to statutory benefits and assistance programs.

This bill seeks to establish a clear statutory definition of “permanent disability” and provide lifetime validity for PWD-IDCs issued to qualified individuals. The measure requires that permanent disability be certified by the municipal or city health office and verified by the Local Social Welfare and Development Office (LSWDO) to ensure the integrity of the system. By eliminating repetitive renewal requirements for conditions that are medically determined to be irreversible, the bill reduces bureaucratic barriers while preserving appropriate safeguards against misuse.

The measure likewise promotes more efficient public service delivery by allowing local government units to focus their resources on identifying, registering, and assisting unserved and underserved members of the PWD sector rather than processing repetitive renewals. As of 2025, the National Council for Disability Affairs (NCDA) reported more than 2.5 million Filipinos who are registered as PWDs nationwide,<sup>2</sup> a figure that remains

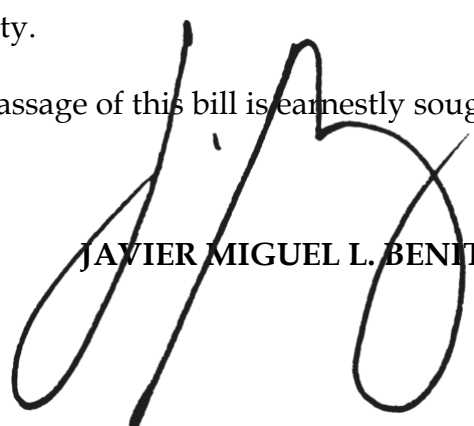
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<sup>1</sup> National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), Administrative Order No. 001, s. 2021. <https://ncda.gov.ph/disability-laws/administrative-orders/ncda-administrative-order-no-001-series-of-2021/> (date last accessed: June 18, 2026).

<sup>2</sup> Cabalza, D. (2025). Registered PWDs in PH now at 2.5M. INQUIRER.net. <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2072065/registered-pwds-in-ph-now-at-2-5m> (date last accessed: June 18, 2026).

significantly lower than global disability prevalence estimates. Simplifying procedures for persons with permanent disabilities can help improve access to government services, encourage registration, and ensure the continuous enjoyment of benefits guaranteed under the Magna Carta for Persons with Disability.

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



**JAVIER MIGUEL L. BENITEZ**

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**AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY,” AS  
AMENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE LIFETIME VALIDITY OF  
IDENTIFICATION CARDS ISSUED TO PERSONS WITH PERMANENT  
DISABILITY**

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 4 of the Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, otherwise known as the “Magna Carta for Persons with Disability is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 4. Definition of Terms: For purposes of this Act, these terms are defined as follows:

x x x

(c) Disability shall mean (1) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more psychological, physiological, or anatomical functions of an individual or activities of such individual; (2) a record of such an impairment; or (3) being regarded as having such an impairment;

(c-1) Permanent disability refers to a physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairment that (1) substantially limits one or more major bodily functions or activities of an individual; and (2) is medically determined to be irreversible, non-transitory, or otherwise expected to last for the lifetime of the individual, as certified by a licensed physician of the municipal or city health office and verified by the Local Social Welfare and Development Office (LSWDO). x x x”

**SEC. 2.** Section 32 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 32. Persons with disability shall be entitled to the following:

x x x

The abovementioned privileges are available only to persons with disability who are Filipino citizens 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 of the place where the persons with disability resides; **OR**

(II) The passport of the persons with disability concerned; of

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

**PROVIDED, THAT IDENTIFICATION CARDS ISSUED TO PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITY SHALL BE FREE OF CHARGE AND SHALL BE VALID DURING THE LIFETIME OF THE CARDHOLDER.**

**PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT SUCH PERMANENT DISABILITY IS CERTIFIED BY THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY HEALTH OFFICE AND VERIFIED BY THE LOCAL SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (LSWDO).**

**PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT IN CASE OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, THE CARDHOLDER MAY RENEW HIS/HER IDENTIFICATION CARD.”**

**SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from approval of this Act, the NCDA, in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and other relevant government

agencies, shall formulate the rules and regulations necessary in the proper implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.*** - If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 6. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*