

SENATE  
S. B. NO. 2245

21 MAY 31 P2:45

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Introduced by SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III

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**AN ACT**  
**GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO PERSONS WITH**  
**DISABILITY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 32(A)(7)**  
**OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED BY RA 10754, OTHERWISE**  
**KNOWN AS "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REHABILITATION, SELF-**  
**DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE OF DISABLED PERSON AND**  
**THEIR INTEGRATION INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF SOCIETY AND FOR**  
**OTHER PURPOSES"**

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Gone are the days when owning a car is considered a luxury as having one has now become a necessity. This pandemic has made us realize and highlighted the need to own and maintain your own vehicle for some obvious reasons – convenience, safety, and security. More so that the transportation of those who are part of the vulnerable sector, which includes persons with disability (PWDs), must be through a private vehicle to prevent their exposure not only to the coronavirus but to the perils outside their homes.

Section 1, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution states that:

*"The Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good."*

Likewise, Section 2 of the same article provides that:

*"The promotion of social justice shall include the commitment to create economic opportunities based on freedom of initiative and self-reliance."*

Hence, several legislations were enacted in order to give effect to the immediately cited provisions, like the law for the development and self-reliance of PWDs. Through this kind of policy safeguarding the rights of the vulnerable sectors, our State is promoting equity among its citizens. However, further privileges can still be granted to our PWDs for them to be aware that there is always a government who is there to support, enable and stand up for them.

This proposed legislation simply grants a 20% discount from toll fees paid through radio frequency identification devices (RFID) or similar systems, provided that the vehicle that has the installed RFID is registered under the name of the PWD so as this privilege may be availed of.

With the existence of their disabilities, PWDs may have difficulty to function freely and go about their day-to-day lives with a little struggle, not to mention the discrimination that they experience on a regular basis. Giving discount from toll fees, while they may seem trivial, has a big impact on their overall welfare. PWDs, through the privileges given to them, can make them feel that they are truly part of the society. Also, the additional savings from the discount may then be spent on other items needed by the PWDs.

Let us eliminate the biases and prejudices against PWDs through this proposed bill. Thus, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

  
VICENTE C. SOTTO III

Senate  
Committee on Education


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

1           **SECTION 1.** Section 32(a) (7) of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended  
2 by RA 10754, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

3           "SEC. 32. Persons with disability shall be entitled to:

4           "(a) xxxx xxx xxxx

5           "(7) On actual fare for land transportation travel such as, but not  
6 limited to, public utility buses or jeepneys (PUBs/PUJs), taxis, asian  
7 utility vehicles (AUVs), shuttle services, **SKYWAYS AND**  
8 **EXPRESSWAYS WHOSE TOLL FEES ARE PAID THROUGH THE**  
9 **RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION DEVICES (RFID) OR**  
10 **SIMILAR SYSTEMS** and public railways, including light Rail Transit  
11 (LRT), Metro Rail Transit (MRT) and Philippine National Railways  
12 (PNR).

13           **IN THE AVAILMENT OF THIS PRIVILEGE, THE VEHICLE MUST**  
14 **BE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE PWD. THE**  
15 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**

1 (DOTC), LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (LRTA), PHILIPPINE  
2 NATIONAL RAILWAYS (PNR), TOLL REGULATORY BOARD (TRB)  
3 AND LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND  
4 REGULATORY BOARD (LTFRB) SHALL ISSUE CORRESPONDING  
5 CIRCULARS OR DIRECTIVES TO THE PUBLIC LAND  
6 TRANSPORT SECTOR FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE  
7 RULES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE HEREWITH, AS WELL AS  
8 REQUIREMENTS TO THESE OPERATORS TO DISSEMINATE  
9 INFORMATION ON THE BENEFITS OF THE PERSONS WITH  
10 DISABILITY BY POSTERS, HANDBILLS OR PAMPHLETS ON  
11 BOARD THEIR VEHICLES; and”

12 SECTION 2. **Separability Clause.**- If any part of this Act is declared  
13 unconstitutional or invalid such parts or provisions thereof not so declared  
14 shall remain valid and subsisting.

15 SECTION 3. **Repealing Clause.**- All laws, decrees, executive orders,  
16 issuances or regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act shall  
17 hereby revised or amend accordingly.

18 SECTION 4. **Effectivity Clause.**- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
19 days after its publication in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*