HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9106

- BY REPRESENTATIVES TREÑAS, SUANSING (E.), VARGAS, VIOLAGO, SY-ALVARADO, LAOGAN, AGLIPAY-VILLAR, VELASCO-CATERA, SAVELLANO, GULLAS, COLLANTES, MATUGAS, MARQUEZ, LAZATIN, CASTRO (F.H.), NOGRALES (J.J.), SIAO, MARTINEZ, VELOSO, ALONTE, VILLARIN, PIMENTEL, BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN. (M.K.), Aggabao, Villafuerte, Acosta, DIMAPORO ARCILLAS, MANGAOANG, MACEDA, MANGUDADATU (S.), GASATAYA, PANOTES, ZUBIRI, CANAMA, EUSEBIO, VERGARA, UNGAB, CHAVEZ, NAVA, BERTIZ, YAP (M.), BRAVO (M.V.), SALO, MENDING, BELMONTE (R.), REVILLA, PALMA, MARIÑO, PAPANDAYAN, MONTORO, ORTEGA (P.), BOLILIA, NIETO, PINEDA, YU, LACSON, HERRERA-DY, SALON, MADRONA, CUARESMA, TEVES, BILLONES, ORTEGA (V.N.), ROCAMORA, ROMERO, MALAPITAN, GONZALES (A.D.), PANCHO, GARCIA (J.E.), SILVERIO, LOPEZ (M.L.), BELARO, DEL ROSARIO, SARMIENTO (E.M.), ANGARA-CASTILLO, DE VERA, GONZAGA, TAMBUNTING, ROBES, YAP (A.), ABUEG, ERIGUEL, CASTRO (F.L.), AQUINO-MAGSAYSAY, BORDADO, TINIO, NOGRALES (K.A.), QUIMBO, DEFENSOR, SALCEDA, LANETE, DEL MAR, SAMBAR, ALMONTE, CALIXTO-RUBIANO, CAMINERO, TEJADA, BATAOIL, MENDOZA, GARBIN, ESCUDERO, ARENAS, BRAVO (A.), ATIENZA, ROA-PUNO, ROMUALDO, ABAYON, SUANSING (H.), AKBAR, CAMPOS, CHIPECO, HOFER, NOEL, GONZALES (A.P.), GARIN (R.), FORTUN, ALEJANO, GO (M.), CARI, FERNANDO, NUÑEZ-MALANYAON, TUPAS, DALIPE, CALDERON, MARCOLETA AND VERGARA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1264
- AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGES TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR
- Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4 of Chapter 1, Title One of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, 2 otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities," is hereby further amended 3 by inserting new subsections to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. Definition of Terms – [For purposes of] AS USED IN this Act: [these terms are
 defined as follows:

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(Q) ASSISTIVE DEVICES AND TECHNOLOGIES REFER TO WHEELCHAIRS AND 7 WALKERS, PROSTHESES, HEARING AIDS, AIDS FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, 8 AND SPECIALIZED COMPUTER SOFTWARE, HARDWARE AND PERIPHERALS THAT 9 INCREASE MOBILITY, HEARING, VISION, OR COMMUNICATION CAPACITIES. 10 AMONG OTHERS. THEIR PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE AN 11 12 INDIVIDUAL'S FUNCTIONING AND INDEPENDENCE TO FACILITATE PARTICIPATION AND TO ENHANCE OVERALL WELL-BEING BY HELPING PREVENT 13 IMPAIRMENTS AND SECONDARY HEALTH CONDITIONS; AND 14

15 (R) ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICE REFERS TO ANY SERVICE THAT 16 DIRECTLY ASSISTS A PERSON WITH DISABILITY IN THE SELECTION, 17 ACQUISITION, OR USE OF AN ASSISTIVE DEVICE AND TECHNOLOGY."

18 SEC. 2. Section 5 of Chapter 1, Title Two of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, is 19 hereby further amended to read as follows:

20 "SEC. 5. Equal Opportunity for Employment. - No [disabled] person WITH 21 DISABILITY shall be denied access to opportunities for suitable employment. A qualified 22 [disabled] employee WITH DISABILITY shall be subject to the same terms and conditions of 23 employment and the same compensation, privileges, benefits, fringe benefits, incentives or 24 allowances as a qualified able-bodied person.

[Five] AT LEAST TWO percent (2%) [5%] of all [casual, emergency and contractual 26 positions in the Departments of Social Welfare and Development; Health; Education; Culture 27 and Sports; and other government agencies, offices or corporations engaged in social 28 development shall be reserved for disabled persons.] POSITIONS IN ALL GOVERNMENT 29 30 AGENCIES, OFFICES OR CORPORATIONS SHALL BE FILLED UP WITH QUALIFIED PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: PROVIDED, THAT PRIVATE CORPORATIONS ARE 31 MANDATED TO RESERVE AT LEAST ONE PERCENT (1%) OF ALL POSITIONS FOR 32 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THOSE PRIVATE 33 CORPORATIONS WITH MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND (1,000) EMPLOYEES SHALL 34 RESERVE AT LEAST TWO PERCENT (2%) OF ALL POSITIONS FOR PERSONS WITH 35 DISABILITIES." 36

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38 SEC. 3. Section 8 (a) and (b) of Chapter 1, Title Two of Republic Act No. 7277, as 39 amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

40 "SEC. 8. *Incentives for Employers.* - (a) To encourage the active participation of the 41 private sector in promoting the [welfare] RIGHTS of [disabled] persons WITH DISABILITIES 42 and to ensure gainful employment for qualified [disabled] persons WITH DISABILITIES,

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adequate incentives shall be provided to private entities which employ [disabled] persons WITH
 DISABILITIES.
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(b) Private entities that employ [disabled] persons WITH DISABILITIES who meet the 4 required skills or qualifications, [either as regular employee,] AS apprentice or learner, shall be 5 entitled to an additional deduction, from their gross income, equivalent to twenty-five percent 6 (25%) of the total amount paid as salaries and wages to [disabled] 7 persons WITH DISABILITIES, WHILE PRIVATE ENTITIES THAT EMPLOY SAID PERSONS WITH 8 DISABILITIES AS REGULAR EMPLOYEES SHALL BE ENTITLED TO AN ADDITIONAL 9 DEDUCTION, FROM THEIR GROSS INCOME, EQUIVALENT TO FIFTY PERCENT (50%) 10 OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAID AS SALARIES AND WAGES TO PERSONS WITH 11 DISABILITIES: Provided, [however, That such entities present proof as certified by the 12 Department of Labor and Employment that disabled persons are under their employ: Provided, 13 further, That the disabled employee is accredited with the Department of Labor and Employment 14 and the Department of Health as to his disability, skills and qualifications.] THAT THE 15 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE), UNDER ITS LABOR LAWS, 16 SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE TO PRIVATE ENTITIES AS 17 PRESCRIBED IN DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 131-B, SERIES OF 2016, ON THE REVISED 18 RULES ON LABOR LAWS COMPLIANCE SYSTEM: PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT IF 19 THERE IS NO QUALIFIED PERSON WITH DISABILITY APPLICANT AFTER THIRTY 20 (30) DAYS FROM THE MANDATORY PUBLICATION BY THE EMPLOYER OF ITS JOB 21 VACANCY RESERVED FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, THE EMPLOYER MAY 22 HIRE A NON-PWD APPLICANT FOR SAID RESERVED POSITIONS BY SECURING 23 24 PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE DOLE."

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SEC. 4. Section 32 of Chapter 8, Title Two of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, is hereby further amended by inserting two new subsections to read as follows:

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

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(L) A MONTHLY STIPEND AMOUNTING TO FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00) TO
AUGMENT THE DAILY SUBSISTENCE, MEDICAL AND OTHER NEEDS OF
MARGINALIZED PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: *PROVIDED*, THAT PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES WHO ARE RECIPIENTS OF SIMILAR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM
THE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING MONETARY ASSISTANCE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
AND BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE *PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO* PROGRAM, OR
4PS, SHALL NO LONGER BE GIVEN THIS STIPEND;

(M) PROVISION OF FREE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES SUCH AS THE
EVALUATION OF THE NEEDS AND THE FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY OF PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES IN THE CUSTOMARY ENVIRONMENT OR PLACE OF
EMPLOYMENT, AS WELL AS SELECTING, DESIGNING, FITTING, CUSTOMIZING,
ADAPTING, APPLYING, MAINTAINING, REPAIRING, OR REPLACING ASSISTIVE
TECHNOLOGY DEVICES; TRAINING OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES; SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING AND JOB COACHING, AND

SUCH OTHER FORMS OF ASSISTANCE: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE BENEFICIARY IS A
 MARGINALIZED PERSON WITH DISABILITY AS CERTIFIED BY THE LOCAL
 HEALTH OFFICE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT CONCERNED;

(N) PROVISION OF FREE ASSISTIVE DEVICES AND TECHNOLOGIES INCLUDING 4 TECHNICAL AIDS, PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC DEVICES OR APPLIANCES 5 PARTICULARLY FOR PERSONAL USE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES THAT WILL 6 RESTORE THEIR SOCIAL FUNCTIONING AND PARTICIPATION IN ECONOMIC 7 ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, AND SUCH OTHER DEVICES AND 8 TECHNOLOGIES APPROPRIATE TO OTHER DISABILITIES: PROVIDED, THAT THE 9 BENEFICIARY IS A MARGINALIZED PERSON WITH DISABILITY AS CERTIFIED BY 10 THE LOCAL HEALTH OFFICE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT CONCERNED; 11 12 AND

(O) EXEMPTION FROM PASSPORT PROCESSING FEES, AS WELL AS TRAVEL TAXES, 13 TERMINAL FEES, OTHER FEES AND CHARGES LEVIED IN AIRPORTS, PORTS, OR 14 15 OTHER TERMINALS BY THE GOVERNMENT, AGENCIES ITS OR INSTRUMENTALITIES, OR BY GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED 16 17 CORPORATIONS.

The abovementioned privileges are available only to persons with [disability] DISABILITIES who are Filipino citizens upon submission of any of the following as proof of [his/her] entitlement thereto:

(i) [An] THE PWD identification card issued by the city or municipal mayor or the barangay
 captain of the place where the person[s] with disability resides, OR BY THE
 NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS; OR

24 (ii) The passport of the [persons] PWD with APPARENT disability [concerned;].

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

27 THE IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED TO PERSONS WITH PERMANENT 28 DISABILITIES SHALL BE FREE OF CHARGE AND SHALL BE VALID DURING THE 29 LIFETIME OF THE CARDHOLDER: *PROVIDED*, THAT SUCH PERMANENT 30 DISABILITY IS CERTIFIED BY THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY HEALTH OFFICE AND 31 VERIFIED BY THE LOCAL SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (LSWDO).

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD) SHALL ENSURE THAT THE LIFETIME VALIDITY OF THE ID CARD OF PERSONS WITH PERMANENT DISABILITIES IS NOT ABUSED, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE ID HOLDER DIES."

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1 SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* - The Secretary of Social Welfare and Development shall 2 include in the DSWD's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be 3 included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DSWD, in coordination with the NCDA and in consultation with the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Department of Health, the DOLE, the Department of Finance, and the Civil Service Commission, shall promulgate, not later than ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the necessary rules and regulations for its proper and effective implementation.

9 SEC. 7. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional,
 10 the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

11 SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules 12 and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified 13 accordingly.

14 SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in 15 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,