EXPLICATORY NOTE

According to the 2016 National Disability Prevalence Survey, disability prevalence was recorded at 12 percent for Filipinos age 15 and older. From this number, 47 percent experience moderate disability, while 23 percent have mild disabilities. Further, older generations with almost one-third of the population age 60 or older are afflicted with a severe disability.¹

Persons with disabilities (PWDs) remain as one of the most vulnerable sectors of society. Given the high percentage of persons with a disability, there is a need for more social protection measures to be granted to them. Moreover, PWDs continue to bear exorbitant expenses because of their conditions.

As we work towards achieving equity, this bill seeks to grant a cash gift of P1,000.00 to registered PWDs during their natal day to help ease their financial burden. It shall express our support to our PWDs as valued members of society.

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

MANUEL D. CABOCHAN
Representative
Magdalo Para sa Pilipino Party-List
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7907

Introduced by MAGDALO Party-List Representative

HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

AN ACT

GRANTING BIRTHDAY CASH GIFT AMOUNTING TO ONE THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 1,000.00) TO REGISTERED PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs)

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

SECTION 1. Short Title.— This Act shall be known as the "Birthday Cash Gift for PWDs".

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.— It is hereby the policy of the State to promote the rights of every individual, access to economic opportunities considering their conditions and needs. The State shall provide priority to the needs of vulnerable sectors such as persons with disabilities and recognize them as valuable members of society. Towards this end, social protection measures such as the grant of birthday cash gifts shall be extended to persons with disabilities.

Sec. 3. Grant of Birthday Cash Gift.— All Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) shall be entitled to the Birthday Cash Grant amounting to One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00).
Sec. 4. **Applicability.**— The Birthday Cash Grant (BCG) is only to persons with disabilities who are Filipino citizens as provided by Republic Act No. 7277, also known as the Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities.

Sec. 5. **Requirements for Birthday Grant.**— Beneficiaries of the grant must be:
(a) Registered voter in their locality; or
(b) Registered with the Persons with Disability Affairs Office in their local registry.

Sec. 6. **Availment of Birthday Cash Gift.**— The Birthday Cash Gift shall be released to the registered PWD or to his guardian or attorney-in-fact, within the month of his birthday. *Further*, the release of the BCG shall be handled by the Persons with Disability Affairs Office, or its relative counterpart, in respective municipalities. *Provided, however*, That such availment made by the aforementioned representatives must be presented with a letter of authorization from the registered PWD.

Sec. 7. **Penalty.**— Any private persons or juridical entity who impersonates the registered PWD or its representative, with the intention of acquiring the said benefit shall suffer the penalty of a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) but not more than Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00), without prejudice to any separate civil, administrative or criminal charge that may be brought against the person.

The Department of Social Welfare and Disability, with the coordination of concerned Persons with Disabilities Affairs Office or its relative counterpart, is hereby authorized to conduct an investigation in such case that the benefit was granted to a wrong person and to recommend administrative sanctions against erring public officials and/or employees in the distribution of the BCG, in compliance to Republic Act No. 6713, or the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees.
Sec. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.— Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 9. Appropriations.— The funds necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be charged to the budget of the Department of Social Welfare and Development as provided in the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the necessary sum for the implementation of this Act shall be provided in subsequent General Appropriations Acts.

Sec. 10. Separability Clause.— If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in force and effect.

Sec. 11. Repealing Clause.— All laws, decrees, letters of instructions, resolutions, orders, ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Sec. 12. Effectivity Clause. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,