


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'16 JUL 20 P3:10

SENATE
S.B. No. 662

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANT OF STUDENT FARE DISCOUNT PRIVILEGES ON LAND, WATER AND AIR TRANSPORT UTILITIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In many areas of the country, particularly in rural towns, students must walk up to five kilometers each way to get to school. A daily tricycle ride, the only alternative, would be too costly. However, with our climate that brings either torrential rains or, extreme heat, the long and arduous walk sometimes spells the difference between pursuing and halting one's education.

To give all Filipino students an equal opportunity to an excellent education, this bill proposes to strengthen the mandate for student discounts on transport fares. Under this act, students with valid proof of enrolment to an educational institution must be granted a 20% discount on all land, water and air transportation all throughout the year.

Additionally, this bill seeks to impose stricter penalties for transport providers who do not honor student fares with the help of a hotline through which complaints may be coursed.

Through this mandate, our most underprivileged students stand to benefit from reasonable transportation costs that will be applicable even on weekends and holidays during which students often have extra-curricular activities related to enriching their education.

The inclusion of air and sea transportation will facilitate students' access to learning not only in the classroom but also around the Philippine islands, across our region, and beyond.

In view thereof the passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

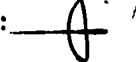


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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall also be known as the "*Fare Discount for*
2 *Students Act.*"

3 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** - Pursuant to Article XIV, Section 1 of the
4 Constitution, "the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality
5 education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to
6 all." In addition, Paragraph 3, Section 2 of said Article directs the State to establish and
7 maintain a system at scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies, and other
8 incentives which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private
9 schools, especially to underprivileged.

10 **SECTION 3. Objective.** – This measure aims to:

- 11 a) Establish a mechanism that ensures the mandatory grant of fare discount
- 12 privileges to deserving students;
- 13 b) Enlist the cooperation and/or support of transport utility owners to extend
- 14 assistance to deserving students as a social responsibility through the
- 15 observance of the grant; and
- 16 c) To encourage students, particularly the poor and underprivileged to pursue
- 17 quality education to secure their future and make them responsible citizens.

18 **SECTION 4. Scope-** This Act shall be applicable to all Filipino students, currently
19 enrolled in schools taking basic and tertiary education, including technical-vocational, taking
20 public air, land or water transportation.

21 **SECTION 5. Student Discount.** – Students shall be entitled to a twenty (20) percent
22 discount on regular fares upon presenting valid school identification (ID) card or currently
23 validated enrolment forms supported by other documents to properly address identity.

1 Fare discounts are effective as long as the student can show proof that they are
2 enrolled in an educational institution, including weekends and public holidays.

3 **SECTION 6. *Complaints and Violations.***- Students who are refused to avail of the
4 fare discount stipulated in this Act, shall file their complaint with the Secretary of
5 Transportation and Communications. The Office of the Secretary of the Department of
6 Transportation and Communications (DOTC) shall direct the complaints to the concerned
7 attached agency:

- 8 a) The Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) for land
9 transportation;
- 10 b) The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) for sea/water transportation
11 utilities;
- 12 c) The Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) for air transportation; and
- 13 d) The Legal Services of DOTC for rail transportation facilities.

14 **SECTION 7. *Penalties.***- The following penalties shall be imposed to the violators of
15 this Act:

- 16 a) For Land Transportation Utilities – Suspension of license for the erring driver,
17 conductor or inspector for one (1) month for the 1st offense; two (2) months
18 for the 2nd offense; three (3) months for the 3rd offense; and for subsequent
19 violations, a three-month suspension of license, plus a fine of Five Hundred
20 Pesos (P 500) for each violation of the erring party;
- 21 b) For Water and Air Transportation - A fine shall be imposed against the erring
22 firms/establishment or their authorized agents in the amount of One
23 Thousand Pesos (P 1,000) for the 1st offense; Two Thousand Pesos (P 2,000)
24 for the 2nd offense; Three Thousand Pesos (P 3,000) for the 3rd offense; and
25 Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000) for each subsequent violation;
- 26 c) For Rail Transport Utilities - All rail transport utilities are mandate to observe
27 the aforesaid fare discount privilege and designate a student/senior citizen
28 fare booth in their boarding stations. Violation thereof shall be sanctioned or
29 fined as indicated in the previous paragraph immediately (item b, above).

30 **SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the
31 effectivity of this Act, the Department of Transportation and Communications, in
32 coordination with its relevant attached agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and
33 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

34 **SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
35 regulations or other issuances, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby
36 repealed or modified accordingly.

37 **SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
38 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall
39 remain in force and effect.

1 **SECTION 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its publication in
2 the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved