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SENATE

S.B. No. 1577

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INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FILIPINO IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

EXPLANATORY NOTE

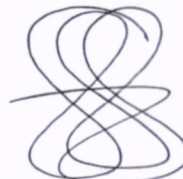
It is the duty of the Government to deliver the basic needs of the people. To realize this, an efficient system that can facilitate transactions with the government must be in place.

An integrated system of identification must therefore be established to urgently address the concerns of the people. A unified national ID system is needed to simplify all the transactions entered into by the citizens in availing various government services. It aims to reduce the costs shouldered by the government and the public by using the existing multiple ID cards.

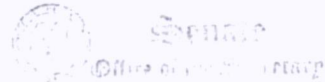
Under this bill, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) shall determine, validate and administer the data and materials required to avail of the benefits of the identification system. Meanwhile, the Department of Foreign Affairs, in coordination with the PSA, shall handle the registration of Filipinos residing abroad.

A repository of all data shall be created to protect all the information gathered in maintaining this ID system. No such information shall be released to any agency, office or instrumentality unless otherwise authorized.

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



EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO



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AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FILIPINO IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the "Filipino Identification System Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the policy of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that shall ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services and improved quality of life for all. Towards this end, an effective identification system is hereby established to facilitate transactions with the government and to simplify the process relative to delivery of public services.

SEC. 3. *Filipino Identification System.* – The Filipino Identification System herein referred to as the "ID System" is hereby established and instituted as an economic and social tool towards the attainment of a progressive society through the provision of efficient services to all Filipinos. The identification system shall provide official identification of citizens of the Republic of the Philippines through the issuance of the Filipino Identification Card (Filipino ID card). It shall gradually concert and consolidate all existing Government-initiated identification systems into one integrated and efficient identification system.

SEC. 4. *The Filipino Identification (ID) Card.* – Every Filipino, upon reaching the age of seven (7) years old, whether residing in the Philippines or abroad, is mandated to register personal information required by the ID system, and upon application shall be issued a non-transferrable Filipino ID card with an ID number based on the cardholder's Birth Certificate Number that shall be valid for life, subject to replacement only under the following circumstances:

- a. When there is a change in name and family name by virtue of court order or when a married woman decides to adopt the surname of the husband;
- b. For lost or destroyed ID card;
- c. For other revisions that may be deemed necessary by the cardholder such as changes in the facial-feature due to age or medical intervention.

1 The Filipino ID card shall be made of tamper-proof security material. It shall have on
2 its face the imprinted photograph, name, gender, birthdate, place of birth, date of issue,
3 signature of owner, the corresponding ID number based on the cardholder's Birth Certificate
4 Number, and such other data as may be deemed necessary. The Filipino ID card shall also
5 have the capability to store at least the biometric data of the individual cardholder.

6 The initial application and issuance of the Filipino ID card shall be free of charge as
7 part of the government's social service responsibility. A replacement fee shall be paid by the
8 cardholder.

9 The pertinent details for applicants with preexisting government-issued identification
10 card shall be utilized and honored as reference in the issuance of the Filipino ID card.

11 *SEC 5. Roles and Function of the Philippine Statistics Authority and the Department*
12 *of Foreign Affairs through the Philippine Embassies and Consular Office.* – The PSA, as the
13 implementing agency, shall determine, validate and administer the data and materials
14 required to avail of the benefits of the identification system. It shall assign a unique Common
15 Reference Number based on the cardholder's Birth Certificate Number.

16 The DFA, in coordination with the PSA, shall handle the registration of Filipinos
17 residing abroad. The abovementioned government offices shall create a special unit which
18 shall be responsible for:

- 19 a. Accepting applications for a Filipino ID card;
- 20 b. Processing of such applications; and
- 21 c. Releasing the Filipino ID card to the applicants.

22 *SEC 6. Registration.* – Upon the effectivity of the Act and when the ID system has
23 become operational, every Filipino residing in the Philippines shall apply for the registration
24 and issuance of the Filipino ID card at the Local Civil Registry Office (LCRO) of the city or
25 municipality where one is a resident for a minimal fee. Likewise, every Filipino residing
26 abroad shall apply for the registration and issuance of the Filipino ID card at the nearest
27 Philippine Embassy or consular office of the country where they are residing. The PSA,
28 through the LCRO or the Philippine Embassy or consular offices abroad, is mandated to issue
29 a Filipino ID card within ninety (90) days from the registration of live birth.

30 The parents or the legal guardian of the minor, incompetent, or disabled person shall
31 be responsible for the application and safekeeping of the issued Filipino ID card issued to
32 said minor, incompetent or disabled person.

33 The PSA, through the LCRO, is directed to conduct mobile registration to ensure the
34 registration of all Filipinos including indigenous Filipinos and those in the remote
35 communities.

36 *SEC. 7. Features Involving the Private Sector and the Local Government Units.* – The
37 PSA shall encourage the cooperation of the private sector and the local government units
38 (LGUs) in granting additional benefits and privileges to Filipino ID cardholders.

1 SEC. 8. *Functional Uses of the Filipino ID Card.* – The Filipino ID card shall be
2 presented and honored in transactions requiring the identity, status, birth and all other
3 personal circumstances such as the following:

- 4 a. All transactions with the government, including:
5 i. Application for passport and driver;s license;
6 ii. Filing of applications for any services and benefits offered by the
7 Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), the Social Security System
8 (SSS), the Philippine Health Insurances Corporation (PhilHealth) and the
9 Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF); and
10 iii. Application for clearances from the National Bureau of Investigation
11 (NBI), courts, prosecutor, and the police;
12 b. Proof of identity, status, age, and address for admission in all learning institutions
13 as well as for employment purposes;
14 c. Availment of benefits or privileges afforded by law to senior citizens;
15 d. Proof of identity, status, age and address for transactions in banking and financial
16 institutions;
17 e. Voting identification purposes; and
18 f. Such other purposes and uses which the PSA may prescribe.

19 When the Filipino ID card is presented to any government agency or for identification
20 purposes, no other additional identification card shall be required.

21 Except in instances allowed under the provisions of Republic Act No. 9225 or “The
22 Citizenship Retention and Re-acquisition Act of 2003”, the Filipino ID card shall *motu*
23 *proprio* be rendered invalid and ineffective upon the loss of Filipino citizenship.

24 SEC. 9. *Change of Personal Status and Residence.*– Any person who intends to effect
25 changes in his Filipino ID including change in personal status, residence, or any material
26 data, shall have the duty to inform the LCRO, the embassy or consular office where the
27 person is residing, within a certain period as shall be prescribed by the PSA.

28 SEC. 10. *Protection Against Unlawful Disclosure of Information/Records.* – No
29 person may publish, disseminate or give to third parties or entities, including government
30 enforcement agencies, any information obtained in connection with the application for the
31 Filipino ID card, including the use thereof except in the following cases:

- 32 a. When the holder of the Filipino ID card expressly authorizes the disclosure of
33 such information to a third person, entity or agency;
34 b. In the event of accident, disaster or fortuitous events, when information on the
35 medical history of the holder such ass the blood type or special medical needs or
36 other relevant information are needed by medical institutions and health service
37 workers;
38 c. When the interest of public health or safety so requires; and
39 d. Upon the order of any competent court.

1 Any information obtained as a result of unlawful disclosure under this Act shall be
2 inadmissible as evidence in any criminal proceeding against the holder of the Filipino ID
3 card.

4 SEC 11. *Safeguards on the Filipino ID.* – The PSA, as repository of all data, shall
5 create and maintain a Filipino Citizen Registry that will contain the registered records and
6 information of persons issued with the Filipino ID card. The PSA, as the main issuing
7 authority of the official Filipino ID card, shall institute the necessary measures to safeguard
8 the information provided in the Filipino ID card. No such information shall be released to any
9 agency, office or instrumentality, government or otherwise, nor shall it be used against any
10 person except in cases stipulated in Sec. 10 of this Act.

11 The PSA, in pursuance of its mandated statistical function, may generate and release
12 aggregated information from the Filipino Citizen Registry in the form of summaries and
13 statistical tables: *Provided*, That no reference to an individual shall appear and that no person
14 can be readily identified in the released information.

15 The information in the Filipino Citizen Registry shall be categorized in a manner that
16 allows proper safeguards in data access, security, and change management.

17 SEC. 12. *Penal Provisions.* – Any person who knowingly uses false information in
18 applying for the issuance of a Filipino ID card or procures one through fraud and utilizes the
19 card in an unlawful manner shall be punished with a fine of not less than fifty thousand pesos
20 (P50,000.00) but not more than five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) or an
21 imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than two (2) years, or both, at the
22 discretion of the court.

23 Any person who shall willfully and unjustifiably refuse to accept, acknowledge or
24 recognize the Filipino ID card as the only official identification of the owner thereof shall
25 also be punished with the same penalties or imprisonment stated in the preceding paragraph.

26 Any public official or employee who connives with the offender in committing the
27 acts mentioned in the last two (2) preceding paragraphs or, on his own, causes the issuance of
28 an unauthorized Filipino ID card or approves the application for the same, despite the
29 knowledge of the existence of fraud or false information, shall suffer the corresponding
30 penalties imposed in the last two (2) preceding paragraphs and shall suffer the penalty of
31 perpetual disqualification from government service.

32 The penalties imposed in this section shall be in addition to those imposed on acts
33 punishable by existing penal and other laws, including acts of omission.

34 SEC 13. *Failure to Present ID Card.* – Failure of any person to present a Filipino ID
35 card when transacting business with the government or with private entities requiring its use
36 and presentation shall not be a ground to deny or limit the grant of basic government and
37 private service as long as such transaction is qualified under existing laws.

1 SEC. 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within ninety (90) days upon approval
2 of this Act, the PSA, in coordination with relevant agencies such as the DFA, the National
3 Economic and Development Authority, the Department of Interior and Local Government,
4 the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Science and
5 Technology, the Commission on Elections, the GSIS, the SSS, the PhilHealth and the Bureau
6 of Immigration shall promulgate rules and regulations and exchange existing technologies
7 and best practices on the issuance of identification cards to effectively implement the
8 provisions of this Act.

9 SEC. 15. *Funding.* – The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act
10 shall be included in the budget of PSA and the DFA in the annual General Appropriations
11 Act.

12 SEC. 16. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason or reasons, any part of the provision
13 of this Act shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof
14 which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

15 SEC. 17. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, order, rules and regulations which
16 are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

17 SEC. 18. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
18 in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation. The publication shall not be later than
19 seven (7) days after the approval hereof.

20
21 Approved,