

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2224

Introduced by HON. MA. LOURDES T. ARROYO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure seeks to institutionalize Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) – friendly and safe transportation program.

Based on the 2010 census of population of Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), about 16 per thousand of the country's population had disability. Of the 92.1 million households in the country, 1.4 million or 1.57 percent had some forms of disability.

Despite allocation of designated seats for PWDs in public utility vehicles (PUVs), they can hardly get inside for the reason that PUVs are not designed to be accessible for PWDs.

The Department of Transportation created the Task Force on Accessibility under Special Order No. 2007-77 pursuant to its continuing commitments for the PWDs sector in the country as well as to provide efficient, secured and accessible transportation compliant with international standards and perfectly design for everyone.

In 2016, the government launched the first Philippines' PWD-friendly public buses under its point-to-point (P2P) bus service fleet as part of its Public Utility Modernization Program. The buses have a floor specification that would meet the needs of PWD passengers such as low floor height and features hydraulic system allowing to tilt toward the pavement and features a retractable boarding and alighting ramp.

Marikina City is the first LGU to introduce the Adaptive Mobile Vehicle (AMV) specifically designed to PWDs and Senior Citizens who are travelling around the city.


Earlier in 2019, a group of PWDs in coordination with a youth-led organization Project SMILE initiated a campaign pushing for the first-ever PWD-tricycle in the country primarily targeting wheelchair users. For just Php 100

donation, PWD can have better mobility and may also own said tricycle as source of their livelihood.

This proposed measure shows our primordial concern to the safety and protection of our PWDs as they are often neglected and discriminated. It is indeed high time to level up our system of transportation that would cater to the special needs of our PWDs.

Institutionalizing this kind of transportation program for our PWDs will provide them safe and convenience in commuting going to their intended destinations as well as to improve their accessibility to public transportation.

Given said premises, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


MA. LOURDES T. ARROYO

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2224

Introduced by **HON. MA. LOURDES T. ARROYO**

AN ACT
TO INSTITUTE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs) -FRIENDLY AND SAFE
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM IN THE COUNTRY, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

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 “PWD-friendly and Safe Transportation Act”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to promote the rights of every individual, access to economic opportunities considering their conditions and needs.

SEC. 3. *Institution of PWD-friendly and safe transportation program* - Pursuant to the aforementioned State policy, there shall be the institution of a transportation and mobility program for persons with disabilities (PWDs) under the Department of Transportation (DOTr).

SEC. 4. *Modernization of Public Utility Vehicles (PUVs).* – All PUV operators and owners are hereby required to upgrade their PUVs accessible to all PWDs by providing passenger boarding ramps or lifts, spaces for wheelchair and other safety accessories including but not limited to seatbelts, clamps and grab bars.

SEC. 5. *Designated pick-up points* – A portion of the roadway or highway shall be designated as pick-up points for PWDs as determined by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

SEC. 6. *Implementation and Monitoring.*- The Department of Transportation shall be the main implementing agency for this Act. DOTr in coordination with the Land Transportation Franchising Regulatory Board (LTFRB) and National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) shall likewise monitor the implementation of this program.

SEC. 7. *Penalty Clause.* – Public utility vehicle operators who remiss to implement the said Act shall be punished with a fine not less than Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php200,000.00) but not exceeding Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php500,000.00).

SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* - The Secretary of the Department of Transportation shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 9. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged to the budget of the Department of Transportation under the General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any section or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – Any laws, decrees, or rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,