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SENATE

Senate Resolution No. 783

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE,
WELFARE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
"THE MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY"**

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 Census of Population and Housing, among the 92.1 million total household population of the Philippines, 1,443,000 of them have disability.

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7277 was enacted in 1992 as the landmark legislation for persons with disability (PWDs) in the Philippines, with the aim of improving their "total well-being", declaring and promoting their equality in rights as with other people and their "integration into the mainstream of society", and that, "the State shall exert all efforts to remove all social, cultural, economic, environmental and attitudinal barriers that are prejudicial to disabled persons". To this end, the law granted to PWDs a broad spectrum of rights benefits and privileges that encompass several basic services of government, and also expressly outlawed acts of discrimination against them;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9442 was enacted in 2007, broadening even further the privileges and protection granted to persons with disability;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10070 was enacted in 2010, and clearly provided for the role of the local government units (LGUs) in the implementation of the law. Through the amendatory law, LGUs were mandated to establish local offices dedicated to the service of our PWDs and to allocate the necessary funds to fully implement the law in their respective jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, considering the broad scope of the law, and the numerous agencies of government involved in its implementation, and the dearth of a substantial, detailed, integrated, agency-specific information about whether the objectives of the law are being fully achieved on all aspects of government services, the People, especially the PWDs themselves, through Congress, have the right to inquire about the status of the overall implementation of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on the occasion of the 2014 National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week, that the Senate direct the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation and call upon the appropriate agencies of government to report on the overall status of the implementation of the Magna Carta for Persons with Disability, in relation to their respective mandates, as follows:

- 1) Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and National Council for Disability Affairs (NCDA), with regard to provision of social services for PWDs, and the overall monitoring of the implementation of the law and possible policy changes and developments;
- 2) Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), with regard to the employment status and available opportunities to PWDs;
- 3) Department of Education (DepEd), with regard to the state of education of, and provision and grant of special programs and financial assistance programs for PWDs;
- 4) Department of Health (DOH), with regard to the health services and programs, including medical and dental privileges for PWDs;

- 5) Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and Department of Agriculture (DA), with regard to the availment of consumer rights, benefits and incentives by PWDs, and their fair and equal access to business establishments, facilities and other consumer services;
- 6) Department of Finance (DOF), with regard to status of the grant of tax and duties incentives, privileges and other fiscal incentives for PWDs, as well as for those caring for and living with PWDs, and for donors and other private sector participants contributing to the welfare and care of PWDs;
- 7) Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), with regard to the mobility and accessibility to public services of, and the realization of a barrier-free overall infrastructure environment for, PWDs;
- 8) Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), with regard to media, communication and transportation aids, services and privileges for PWDs;
- 9) Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), with regard to the registration and recognition of PWDs, as well as the status of compliance by LGUs with the mandate to establish Disability Affairs offices in their respective jurisdictions;
- 10) Commission on Elections (Comelec), with regard to the status of the exercise of electoral rights and privileges by PWDs;
- 11) Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), with regard to the state of investigation, enforcement and prosecution of acts of ridicule, harsh treatment and discrimination against PWDs and other violations of and offenses under the Magna Carta for Persons with Disability, whether committed by natural persons or juridical persons;

12) Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) and the National Housing Authority (NHA), with regard to available housing programs and benefits for PWDs;

13) And such other agencies and offices with respect to issues and matters related to the implementation of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Persons with Disability".

Adopted,



FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.