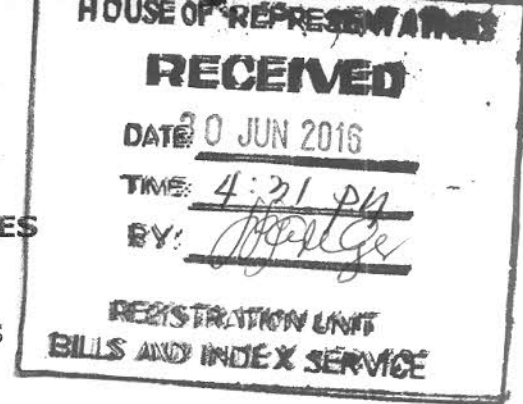


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 368**



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Introduced by Representative **FERDINAND L. HERNANDEZ**  
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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FILIPINO IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As the government continues to strategize in combatting corruption and to minimize the furtherance of red tape in government and private transactions, the establishment of the Filipino Identification System should be in place.

This proposal seeks the establishment of a national identification system for each and every Filipino, whether living in the Philippines or abroad, that is systematic, unified and consolidated. It is aimed at identifying all Filipinos and to simplify the requirements in proving the identity of a person in order to expedite public and private dealings.

With the threat of invasion of privacy and unauthorized disclosure of information, the bill also provided for several safety measures and penal sanctions for violations in case of unsanctioned revelations.

With the foregoing, passage of the bill is earnestly sought.

**FERDINAND L. HERNANDEZ**

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FILIPINO IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM**

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the*  
2 *Philippines in Congress assembled:*  
3  
4

5 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Filipino Identification System  
6 Act".  
7

8 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to  
9 promote a just and dynamic social order that shall ensure the prosperity  
10 and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through  
11 policies that provide adequate social services and improved quality of life  
12 for all. Towards this end, an effective identification system is hereby  
13 established to facilitate transactions with the government and to simplify  
14 the processes relative to public and private services.  
15

16 SEC. 3. *The Filipino Identification System.* – The Filipino  
17 Identification System herein referred to as the "ID system" is hereby  
18 established and instituted as an economic and social tool towards the  
19 attainment of a progressive society through the provision of efficient  
20 services to all Filipinos. The identification system shall provide official  
21 identification of all citizens of the Republic of the Philippines through the  
22 issuance of the Filipino Identification Card (Filipino ID card). It shall

1 gradually concert and consolidate all existing Government-initiated  
2 identification systems into one integrated and efficient identification  
3 system.

4  
5 SEC. 4. *The Filipino Identification (ID) Card.* – Every Filipino,  
6 whether residing in the Philippines or abroad, is mandated to register  
7 personal information required by the ID system, and upon application  
8 shall be issued a non-transferrable Filipino ID card with an ID number that  
9 shall be valid for life, subject to replacement only under the following  
10 circumstances:

- 11  
12 (a) When a child reaches the legal age of eighteen (18) years  
13 old;  
14 (b) When there is change in name and family name by virtue of  
15 court order or by application of law, such as a married woman  
16 adopting the surname of the husband;  
17 (c) For lost or destroyed ID card;  
18 (d) For other revisions that may be deemed necessary by the  
19 cardholder such as changes in the facial features due to age  
20 or medical intervention.

21  
22 Filipino cardholders upon reaching the age of sixty (60) years old are  
23 required to renew their Filipino ID card, free of charge.

24  
25 The Filipino ID card shall be made of tamper-proof security material.  
26 It shall have on its face the imprinted photograph, name, birth date,  
27 gender, date of issue, signature of owner, the corresponding individual  
28 serial number issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), and such  
29 other data as may be deemed necessary. The Filipino ID card shall also  
30 have the capability to store at least the biometric data of the individual  
31 cardholder.

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

4  
5 The pertinent details for applicants with preexisting government  
6 issued identification card shall be utilized and honored as reference in the  
7 issuance of the Filipino ID card.

8  
9 SEC. 5. *Roles and Functions of the Philippine Statistics Authority*  
10 *(PSA) and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) through the Philippine*  
11 *Embassies and Consular Offices.* - The PSA, as the implementing  
12 agency, shall determine, validate and administer the data and materials  
13 required to avail of the benefits of the identification system.

14  
15 The DFA, in coordination with the PSA, shall handle the registration of  
16 Filipinos residing abroad. The abovementioned government offices shall  
17 create a special unit which shall be responsible for:

- 18  
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  
23 SEC. 6. *Registration.* - Upon the effectivity of this Act and  
24 when the ID system has become operational, every Filipino residing in the  
25 Philippines shall apply for the registration and issuance of the Filipino ID  
26 card at the Local Civil Registry Office (LCRO) of the city or municipality  
27 where one is a resident. Likewise, every Filipino residing abroad shall  
28 apply for the registration and issuance of the Filipino ID card at the  
29 nearest Philippine Embassy or consular office of the country where they  
30 are residing. The PSA, through the LCRO or the Philippine Embassy or  
31 consular offices abroad, is mandated to issue a Filipino ID card within  
32 ninety (90) days from the registration of live birth.

1  
2 The parents or the legal guardian of the minor, incompetent, or  
3 disabled person shall be responsible for the application and safekeeping of  
4 the issued Filipino ID card.

5  
6 The PSA, through the LCRO, is directed to conduct mobile registration  
7 to ensure the registration of all Filipinos including indigenous Filipinos and  
8 those in the remote communities.

9  
10 SEC. 7. *Features Involving the Private Sector and the Local*  
11 *Government Units.* - The PSA shall encourage the cooperation of the  
12 private sector and the local government units (LGUs) in granting  
13 additional benefits and privileges to Filipino ID cardholders.

14  
15 SEC. 8. *Functional Uses of the Filipino ID Card.* - The Filipino  
16 ID card shall be presented and honored in transactions requiring the  
17 identity, status, birth and all other personal circumstances such as the  
18 following:

19  
20 a) All transactions with the government, including:

21 (1) Application for passport and driver's license;

22 (2) Filing of applications for any services and  
23 benefits offered by the Government Service  
24 Insurance System (GSIS), the Social Security  
25 System (SSS), the Philippine Health Insurance  
26 Corporation (PhilHealth) and the Home  
27 Development Mutual Fund (HDMF); and

28 (3) Application for clearances from the National  
29 Bureau of Investigation (NBI), courts,  
30 prosecutor and the police;

- b) Proof of identity, status, age and address for admission in all learning institutions as well as for employment purposes;
- c) Availment of benefits or privileges afforded by law to senior citizens;
- d) Proof of identity, status, age and address for transactions in banking and financial institutions;
- e) Voting identification purposes; and
- f) Such other purposes and uses which the PSA may prescribe.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

11  
12 Any person who shall willfully and unjustifiably refuse to accept,  
13 acknowledge or recognize the Filipino ID card as the only official  
14 identification of the owner thereof shall also be punished with the same  
15 penalties or imprisonment stated in the preceding paragraph.

16  
17 Any public official or employee who connives with the offender in  
18 committing the acts mentioned in the last two (2) preceding paragraphs  
19 or, on his own, causes the issuance of an unauthorized Filipino ID card or  
20 approves the application for the same, despite the knowledge of the  
21 existence of fraud or false information, shall suffer the corresponding  
22 penalties imposed in the last two (2) preceding paragraphs and shall  
23 suffer the penalty of perpetual disqualification from government service.

24  
25 The penalties imposed in this section shall be in addition to those  
26 imposed on acts punishable by existing penal and other laws, including  
27 acts of omission.

28  
29 SEC. 13. *Failure to Present Filipino ID Card.* - Failure of any  
30 person to present a Filipino ID card when transacting business with the  
31 government or with private entities requiring its use and presentation



1 shall not be a ground to deny or limit the grant of basic government and  
2 private service as long as such transaction is qualified under existing laws.  
3

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

15 SEC. 15. *Funding.* - The amount necessary to implement the  
16 provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of the PSA and the  
17 DFA in the annual General Appropriations Act.  
18

19 SEC. 16. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision, section or part  
20 of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment  
21 shall not affect, invalidate or impair any other provisions, sections or  
22 parts hereof.  
23

24 SEC. 17. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules  
25 and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
26 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.  
27

28 SEC. 18. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days  
29 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
30 circulation.  
31

32 *Approved,*