

REPUBLIC ACT 7277, AN ACT TO NURTURE PWDS

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Since time immemorial education is said and believed to be the most powerful tool to change one's future. Regular or special education, public or private, for rich kids or for poor kids, whatever it would be, education is said to be one of the most helpful aides in directing and redirecting people's lives.

In the past the measure of man's being fortunate or unfortunate is gauged on how he was borne. If he is born "normal" he has complete faculties, all senses used in normal situations. However, if he is born the "other way" where he doesn't have normal faculties, he is said to be person with disability or what others call PWD.

Long before people with disabilities are thought of burdens in our society because they are not given equal opportunities to earn a living nor participate in different activities as other normal human beings do. It is good to note that way back July 22, 1991, a law protecting the rights and privileges of persons with disabilities was introduced and was finally approved on March 24, 1992. The PWDs rights and privileges are stressed in Republic Act 7277 where the discrimination in attaining education and opportunity to be employed in their chosen jobs based on their capabilities are given importance.

Not only in education and employment the PWDS are given importance but also in health services where in Section 20 of Republic Act 7277 it is clearly stated that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of disabled persons and shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to their health development which shall make essential health services available to them at affordable cost.

For PWDS to be useful members of the society, their civil and political rights are also given the chance to be practiced. With all the features of R.A. 7277, the chance to produce more productive responsible and productive citizens of our country including the PWDs is greater leaving our society lesser problems in terms of employment and decent living for less privileged in terms of health-related condition of people borne with disabilities. R.A. 7277 is the ultimate answer to these PWDs.

References:

www.ncda.gov.ph