

**THE LAW OF DEMOCRATIC
PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF KOREA
ON THE PROTECTION OF THE
PERSON WITH DISABILITY**

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CHAPTER 1

FOUNDATION OF THE LAW ON THE PROTECTION OF THE PERSON WITH DISABILITY

ARTICLE 1

The law of the DPR Korea on the Protection of the person with Disability facilitates the provision of more favorable living conditions and environments to the person with disability by establishing strict system and order in the fields related to them like rehabilitation, education, cultural life and labor.

ARTICLE 2

The person with disability is a citizen who suffers severe impediment to lead a normal life for a long time by the limitation or loss of any physical and mental function.

The state respects the personality of the person with disability and shall provide the same socio-political right, freedom and interest to the person with disability as the healthy citizen.

ARTICLE 3

It is consistent policy of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea to protect the person with disability.

The state shall systematically increase the investments in the field of the protection of the person with disability in order to modernize the material and technical means.

ARTICLE 4

The prevention of occurrence and worseness of the disability is an indispensable need to guarantee the stable life of the people.

The state shall promptly disclose and cure the diseases causing the disability and prevent the occurrence of disability caused by the reasons like and labor accidents.

ARTICLE 5

The state shall periodically perform survey on the actual conditions of the person with disability and precisely evaluate the degree of disability and properly define its criteria.

The cabinet shall define the criteria of the degree of disability.

ARTICLE 6

The state shall strengthen the education on disability among the people to inspire them to kindly treat and deliver aids actively to the person with disability in noble conscience and obligation.

ARTICLE 7

The state shall promote the society to preferentially treat the person with disability like the disabled soldier who devoted himself/herself to the fatherland and people.

CHAPTER 2

REHABILITATION OF THE PERSON WITH DISABILITY

ARTICLE 9

The rehabilitation of the person with disability is an important affair to recover physical function of the person with disability.

The medical institutions and agencies concerned should work scrupulously on the medical treatment of the person with disability and ensure that he/she fully enjoys the benefits of universal free medical care of the state.

ARTICLE 10

The medical institution and agencies concerned should find out all the person with disability in each jurisdiction area and register them according to the kinds of their disabilities.

Once the person with disability moves his/her residence, his/her register data should be handed over to the institution concerned in that area.

ARTICLE 11

The state shall organize the specialized or general rehabilitation of the person with disability.

The body in charge of organizing institutions shall bear the responsibility for their organization.

ARTICLE 12

The rehabilitation service for the person with disability shall be provided to him/her through the medical institution concerned.

However, it shall also be carried out in the institution, enterprise, unit or village and family with the help of a medical official.

ARTICLE 13

In the rehabilitation of the person with disability the medical institution and agency concerned should combine the KORYO medicine with the modern while mobilizing the nature elements, and conduct researches of modern rehabilitation therapeutics and introduce promptly into clinical practice the rehabilitation methods which are recognized scientifically.

ARTICLE 14

The guiding body of public health and the institution and enterprise concerned should produce and enterprise concerned should produce and provide systematically the assistive, devices like prostheses, tricycles, glasses and hearing aids.

The assistive devices should be made in high quality and for convenient use.

CHAPTER 3 EDUCATION OF THE PERSON WITH DISABILITY

ARTICLE 15

To strengthen the education of the person with disability is the main way to enable him/her to acquire abundant knowledge and qualification.

The central guiding body of education of education and institution concerned should constantly grasp the situation of education for the person with disability and continuously improve the contents and methods of education.

ARTICLE 16

The medical institutions and agencies concerned should direct the primary concern to bringing up and education the person with disability under preschool age who can adapt himself-herself of school life in nursery, kindergarten or special rehabilitation institution.

The costs of looking after and educating the person with disability shall be borne by the state, institutions, enterprises and units concerned.

ARTICLE 17

Educational institutions should disclose and register the person with disability who is aged to enter a primary school.

Any exclusion of the person with disability from the general secondary compulsory education should not be permitted.

ARTICLE 18

The person with disability can enter the specialized school and college according to his/her wish.

In this case his/her ability should be the first consideration in the admission.

ARTICLE 19

According to physical and mental characteristics and the type of disability of the person with disability, special class can be organized in a normal school and the special schools for blind and deaf and the school for mental cultivation be set up.

The guiding body of education shall organize the special class and the body organize institutions shall set up the special schools.

ARTICLE 20

The educational institutions and the local authorities concerned should properly make up the curriculum of the special schools.

The special education of the person with disability should be given in compliance with actual conditions.

ARTICLE 21

The guiding body of education and agencies concerned should strengthen the research of Braille and sign language and compose and publish the teaching materials for special education.

The institutions, enterprises and units concerned should produce and provide the educational instruments and facilities in good quality.

ARTICLE 22

The guiding body of education and institutions concerned may organize and operate training and vocational schools for blind massager, computer typewriter, artist and designer in consideration of his/her educational career, age and the degree of disability.

ARTICLE 23

The educational institutions and agencies concerned should develop the Braille and sign language in a unified way.

The staff of the facilities which the person with disability users normally should learn the elementary Braille and sign language.

CHAPTER 4

CULTURAL LIFE OF THE PERSON WITH DISABILITY

ARTICLE 24

The provision of cultural life to the person with disability is an important affair to make him/her to lead cultural and emotional life to his/her heart's content.

The guiding bodies of sports and culture and the institutions concerned should organize and implement activities of sports, culture and recreation in a planned way.

ARTICLE 25

The sports guiding body and institutions concerned should select and popularize the kinds of sports suitable to the health of the person with disability.

The sports activities should be organized to help the person with disability increase his/her ability of independent activity.

ARTICLE 26

The cultural guiding body and institutions concerned should organize various cultural and emotional activities of the person with disability.

ARTICLE 27

The institutions concerned should establish asylums contributing and emotional life of the person with disability in necessary areas.

The asylums should be provided with necessary equipment and facilities.

ARTICLE 28

The mass media and publishing organs should promptly give publicity to the creative life and noble deeds displayed among the person with disability.

ARTICLE 29

The mass media and publishing organs should edit and issue publications for the person with disability.

The state will cover the costs of the publications.

CHAPTER 5

LABOR OF THE PERSON WITH DISABILITY

ARTICLE 30

The appropriate organization of labor for the person with disability is the main requirement to encourage him/her to actively participate in labor for the society and collective with pride as social member.

The labor administrative organs and institutions concerned should register the person with disability qualified to work.

ARTICLE 31

The specialized enterprises and units shall be set up in necessary areas in order to organize the labor of the person with disability.

The bodies organizing the institutions should undertake the setting up of the institutions and units.

ARTICLE 32

The institutions, enterprises and organizations should assign the person with disability in the right place and job in compliance with his/her degree of disability as sex, age and physical condition.

In this case his/her opinion shall be fully considered.

ARTICLE 33

The institutions concerned should help the specialized institutions and units for the person with disability to ensure the manufacture of products.

ARTICLE 34

The institutions, enterprises and organizations should fully provide labor conditions for the person with disability.

Without the provision of necessary conditions of labor, any kind of labor should not be allowed to the person with disability.

ARTICLE 35

The labor age of the person with disability is from 16-year-old.

The employment of the person with disability under 16-year-old shall be prohibited.

ARTICLE 36

The labor hour of the person with disability is 8 hours a day.

The labor hour of the person with disability can be less than 8 hours a day in consideration of his/her disability degree.

In this case, he/she will benefit from the popular policy of the state.

ARTICLE 37

The person with disability who participates in labor shall be provided with sufficient conditions to rest.

The institutions, enterprises and organizations should appropriately combine the labor and refreshment of the person with disability and preferentially provide the lay off, recreation and medical treatment.

ARTICLE 38

The person with disability who participates in labor should willingly observe the labor regulations and handle properly the tools and equipment and carry out the assigned task with responsibility.

ARTICLE 39

The state shall award the order, medal and honorary title to the person with disability who performs a meritorious deed.

ARTICLE 40

The state shall give a subsidy to the person with disability who lost the ability to work completely.

ARTICLE 41

The state shall provide stable conditions of life to the person with disability at preservation or asylum according to his/her desire who lost the working ability completely.

CHAPTER 6

GUIDE AND CONTROL ON THE AFFAIRS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PERSON WITH DISABILITY

ARTICLE 42

The strengthening of the guidance and supervision on protection of the person with disability is the main guarantee to carry out thoroughly the state's policy on the protection of the person with disability.

The state shall strengthen the guidance and supervision on the protection of the person with disability in accordance with the requirements of the developing realities.

ARTICLE 43

The guidance on the protection of the person with disability shall be carried out by the central guiding body of public health and other central bodies concerned under the unified leadership of the cabinet.

The central guiding body of public health and other central bodies concerned should appropriately establish the person with disability and constantly perform the guidance and supervision.

ARTICLE 44

The local authorities and institutions concerned should grasp the situation of the protection of the person with disability in each jurisdiction area and take a series of measures for its improvement.

ARTICLE 45

The state shall establish the non-permanent committee for the protection of the person with disability in order to discuss the protection of the person with disability in a planned way and implement it in a unified way.

ARTICLE 46

The state planning committee, the labor administration body, the institutions of material supply, public health, finances and bank should provide promptly the labor, equipment, materials, medicines, medical devices and funds necessary for the protection of the person with disability.

ARTICLE 47

The state guiding body of construction, the city administration body, and institutions and enterprises concerned should organize the affairs to provide convenient living environments to the person with disability according to plan.

The buildings and establishments, which the person with disability uses, should be provided with sufficient facilities and equipment.

ARTICLE 48

The traffic and transport institutions, service centers and communication institutions should provide convenience to the person with

disability in their usage of traffic means, service facilities and communications, and give him/her a kind preferential treatment.

The person with disability who lost or has severe limitation of the independent ability like the blind can use the transportation means like bus and boat in the city free of charge.

ARTICLE 49

The state shall set the Day of the person with disability in order to inspire the society to protect and support the person with disability on better conditions.

The cabinet shall bear the responsibility for setting the Day of the Person with Disability.

ARTICLE 50

The patronizer of the person with disability is the spouse, parent and children, grandparent and grandchildren, brothers and sisters.

The patronizer of the person with disability should faithfully discharge his/her obligations with a main stress on enhancing the independent ability of the person with disability.

ARTICLE 51

The research and educational institutions concerned should firmly establish the research centers for the protection of the person with disability to make an intensive research and study for solving scientific and technical problems arising on the protection of the person with disability and to systematically train the personnel needed for the affairs of the protection of the person with disability like doctor, teacher, technician and specialist.

ARTICLE 52

The supervision and control on the affairs of the protection of the person with disability is the responsibility of the central guiding bodies concerned and the supervision and control organizations.

The central bodies concerned and the supervision and control organizations should perform their duties strictly.

ARTICLE 53

In case the facilities, equipment and devices related to the protection of the person with disability are damaged or lost, they should be restored to the original state or appropriate indemnity paid.

ARTICLE 54

Any leading official of the institution, enterprise and organization or any individual citizen who causes a serious result by breaking this law shall be liable to administrative or criminal punishment according to its degree.