



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 3658

Introduced by Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma
Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya

AN ACT MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF ROAD USE, ETIQUETTE, AND SAFETY EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM OF THE ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION (K TO 12) PROGRAM TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE OF DRIVERS, PASSENGERS, AND PEDESTRIANS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the declared policy of our State enshrined in the 1987 Constitution, *“The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.”*

Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) revealed that in 1018, a total of 434 Filipinos died and 19,374 were wounded in the capital region due to road crashes. This means that 4 in every 100,000 Filipinos died while 193 people in every 100,000 were injured. There was a total of 100,025 road crash incidents in 2017, 703 more cases from last year’s figures of 109,322. The 2017 figure translates to roughly 299 cases per day – a number too large to ignore.

Since the MMDA started collecting road crash data in 2005, the number of recorded road mishaps has almost doubled from 65,111. Some 24,000 crashes involved motorcycles in 2017, killing 247 people and injuring 12,182. Of the dead, 178 were drivers of motorcycles, 37 were passengers, while 32 were pedestrians. Motorcycle crashes were followed by collisions involving trucks – where 118 people were killed and some 1,635 were injured. Cars came after, with 97 killed and 7,681 injured.

Studies showed that several factors cause road crashes, such as road conditions and driver behavior. But studies have also shown how these can be prevented. While several policy measures have been implemented, gaps still remain, according to experts.

Last November 2017, the Department of Transportation (DOTr) launched a road safety plan to reduce fatalities from road crash incidents. The vision is to reduce road crashes by 20% in 2022 – a challenge both for government and advocates.

As an initial step toward reduction, transportation officials said that the public utility vehicle (PUV) modernization program would play a key role in road safety, as old PUV models will be replaced by vehicles that have safety features, and stricter motor vehicle inspection measures will be implemented. The DOTr had started sweeping dilapidated jeepneys off the roads as well, and is preparing to crack down on buses and motorcycles illegally offering PUV services.

But the government can only do so much. Department of Transportation Assistant Secretary Arnulfo Fabillar reminded Filipinos to drive defensively and recommended that passengers urge their drivers to follow the rules, "(Road safety) is a collaboration, a cooperation among people. Everybody has a role to play. Simply following the rules is a start," he said.

The bill seeks to fill the gaps of existing policies by mandating the integration of road use, etiquette and safety in the curriculum of basic education. It is intended to inculcate the value of human life and proper road use of roads during the formative years in order to develop discipline and concern for others among our citizens. This in turn is envisioned to contribute in improving our traffic situation and lessen road accidents.

With this, support for this measure is earnestly sought.


LUISA LLOREN CUARESMA



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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 “*Road Safety Education Act*”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy – It is the declared principle and policy of the State to maintain peace and order, to protect of life, liberty, and property, and promote the general welfare of its citizens. It equally recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. Lastly, the State shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civil affairs.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education (DepEd) is hereby mandated to include in the appropriate subjects the basic traffic rules as defined by international treaty under the authority of the United Nations, the 1968 *Vienna Convention on Road Traffic*, existing local traffic laws, different rules of the road and driving etiquette which are the general practices and procedures that road users and pedestrians are required to follow.

SECTION 4. Appropriations – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of concerned government agencies in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 5. Implementation – Within sixty (60) days after the implementation of this Act, the Department of Education in coordination with the Department of Transportation shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to govern the effective implantation of this Act.

SECTION 6. Repealing Clause – All laws, decrees, executive orders, administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. Separability Clause – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. Effectivity Clause – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,