

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **1349**



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Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Rapid mass transport systems such as the Light Rail Transit (LRT Lines) as well as Metro Rail Transit (MRT Line/s) have truly met the highest demands and objectives to provide mass transport systems at fairly reasonable fare rates the comparative quality of their management, operation, and maintenance cannot be underestimated.


However, increasing number of users may have taken its toll on maintenance or operation costs relative to the user's fees collected from passengers/commuters/users thus perhaps, exerting pressure on contractors to call for fare rate adjustments in order to maintain the quality of service and operation of these lines.

There is now a need therefore for a government agency to oversee the administration and operation of these rail transit systems, both public or private, in Metro Manila and other areas specifically in regard to the collection of fares and prescribing the reasonable fare rates on the use of these facilities/public utilities.

Thus, under this proposed measure, there shall hereby be created the Metro Rail Transit Regulatory Authority to streamline, oversee, and more aggressively manage and operate these valuable government projects called the LRTs and MRTs to effectively and efficiently provide mass transport systems at an all-time reasonable and affordable costs. Pricing policies shall be in accordance with prevailing best pricing models and practices within the competence of the authority to formulate.

The new Authority is expected to provide positive outcomes through close and cooperative linkages with private sectors with whom certain government contracts or agreements have been forged. This way, the best of both worlds could be achieved in meeting the highest requirements of mass rapid transport systems, hence this submission.

Immediate passage of this measure is most earnestly sought.

  
PRECIOUS HIPOKITO CASTELO

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

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1349**

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Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

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**AN ACT**  
**CREATING THE METRO RAIL TRANSIT REGULATORY AUTHORITY TO OVERSEER FARE RATES IN PUBLIC AND/OR PRIVATE RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEMS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Be it enacted in the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the 'Metro Rail Transit Regulatory Authority Act.'

SEC. 2. There is hereby created the Metro Rail Transit Regulatory Authority under the Department of Transportation and Communication purposively to oversee fare rates in public and/or private rail transit systems in Metro Manila and other metropolitan areas.

Thereupon its creation, the Authority shall issue rules, regulations, guidelines, and other appropriate issuances for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 3. The Authority as hereby referred to shall take charge of the administration and operation of the rail transit systems specifically in regard to the prescribed fare rates that must be collected from the riding public/users of these facilities/public utilities with due concern on public interest in the case of the Light Rail Transit System (LRT Lines) and the Metro Rail Transit Corporation (MRT Line/s).

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect sixty (60) days after its approval and publication in the Official Gazette and in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*