

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2566



Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The manner the general riding public respond to every adjustment cycle in transport fare in jeepneys is deemed as a welfare issue that no less than the local government units shall henceforth be mobilized for the legitimate and proper implementation of new fare matrix such as that approved by the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board.

It is likewise seen as a 'best way approach' to insure that the clueless riding public are not being victimized by otherwise opportunistic jeepney drivers who demand fares inconsistent with the fare matrix otherwise prescribed by LTFRB thereby causing a lot of misunderstanding or row between the passengers and the jeepney drivers. Thus in order to effectively deter jeepney drivers from totally ignoring LTFRB guidelines and jeepney drivers charging passengers as much as P1 to P3 higher than the authorized fare matrix, the office in the municipality or city mandated to take charge of public order and safety shall additionally be mobilized to insure on a periodic and continuing basis that jeepney fare rates are compliant only with LTFRB prescribed transport fare matrix or matrices.

The bill envisions that the local government unit be the frontline agency at the local jurisdiction where jeepneys operate (i.e. terminal, parking area, pick up point) in close coordination with the local Land Transportation Office or local PNP detachment or unit to closely monitor the implementation of new fare rates to preclude possible complaints from passengers who might be adversely taken advantage of or victimized by jeepney drivers who overcharge transport fares.

In this light, the concerned LGU may cause the cancellation or revocation of the franchise of the jeepney vehicle itself by endorsing a valid complaint to the LTFRB as valid ground for such action and possible cancellation or revocation of the driver's license of the jeepney driver involved in this overcharging activity based on the same or similar action initiated by the LGU. As construed, overcharging passengers by jeepney passengers carry is an act violative of the welfare of the riding public, hence this submission.

Due to the extreme urgency of the intent of this measure, passage is sought.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

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AN ACT
PROTECTING PASSENGERS OF JEEPNEYS AGAINST OVERCHARGING OF TRANSPORT FARES
THEREBY EMPOWERING THE CONCERNED LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT AS FRONTLINE
IMPLEMENTOR OF NEW FARE ADJUSTMENT AS PRESCRIBED BY LAND TRANSPORTATION
FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD 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 'Anti-Overcharging in Jeepney Fares Act.'

SEC. 2. Jeepneys and jeepney drivers as referred to under this Act shall refer to those operating in Metro Manila, Central Luzon, and Southern Tagalog regions covered by guidelines set by the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board on transport fares, routes, and charges as may otherwise prescribe.

SEC. 3. The Local Government Units (LGU), through its appropriate enforcement arm, shall serve as the frontline agency to implement new transport fare adjustments as prescribed by LTFRB to insure the protection of passengers who are deemed constituents of its territorial jurisdiction where the jeepneys operate against overcharging of prescribed fares/matrix.

SEC. 4. Jeepney operators and/or drivers found to deliberately violate any provision of this Act shall be meted cancellation or revocation of their franchise to operate or driver's licence upon formal complaint by a passenger or passengers duly endorsed by the concerned LGU to the LTFRB in coordination with the local Land Transportation Office or local Philippine National Police Unit.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect upon approval and publication in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,