

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 353



Introduced by Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento

**A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE CREATION OF A TRAFFIC
CRISIS INTER-AGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL FOR THE
PURPOSE OF CONSOLIDATING AND HARMONIZING ALL
TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC POLICIES TO ADDRESS THE URGENT
TRAFFIC CRISIS IN METRO MANILA AND IN THE PHILIPPINES**

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation (DoTr) is mandated to establish and administer comprehensive and integrated programs for transportation, and for this purpose, may call on any agency, corporation, or organization, whether public or private, whose development programs include transportation and communications as an integral part thereof, to participate and assist in the preparation and implementation of such program; DoTr is likewise mandated to formulate and recommend national policies and guidelines for the preparation and implementation of integrated and comprehensive transportation and communications systems at the national, regional and local levels; it is likewise within DoTr scope of powers and responsibilities to assess, review and provide direction to transportation and communication research and development programs of the government in coordination with other institutions concerned¹;

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is one of the departments of the government that are mandated to undertake the planning of infrastructure such as national roads and bridges, flood control, water resources projects and other public works, and the design, construction,

¹ Sec. 5, Executive Order no. 125-A, 13 April 1987, as amended.

and maintenance of national roads and bridges, and major flood control systems²;

WHEREAS, part of the powers and functions of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) is to formulate plans, policies and programs which will meet local emergencies arising from natural and man-made disasters, and to establish a system of coordination and cooperation among the citizenry, local executives and the Department, to ensure effective and efficient delivery of basic services to the public³;

WHEREAS, the scope of services and mandate of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) include performance of planning, monitoring, coordinating and implementing functions where appropriate, and in the process, exercise regulatory and supervisory authority over the delivery of metro-wide services within Metro Manila area, and in conformity with the national government policies without diminution of the autonomy of the local government concerning purely local matters; Part of the powers and functions of MMDA is also to set the policies concerning traffic in Metro Manila, and coordinate and regulate the implementation of all programs and projects concerning traffic management, specifically pertaining to enforcement, engineering and education⁴;

WHEREAS, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) is the office under the DoTr directly responsible for the inspection and registration of motor vehicles and enforcement of land transportation rules and regulations⁵;

WHEREAS, the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) is mandated to formulate, promulgate, administer, implement and enforce rules and regulations on land transportation public utilities, standards of measurements and/or design, and rules and regulations requiring operators of any public land transportation service to equip, install and provide in their utilities and in their stations such devices, equipment facilities and operating procedures and techniques as may promote safety, protection, comfort and convenience to persons and property in their charges as well as the safety of persons and property within their areas of operations; part of their functions is also to coordinate and cooperate with other government agencies and entities concerned with any aspect involving public land transportation services with the end in view of effecting continuing improvement of such services⁶;

² <http://www.dpwh.gov.ph/dpwh/content/about-dpwh>; retrieved 18 September 2019.

³ <https://www.dilg.gov.ph/page/Powers-Functions/21>; retrieved 18 September 2019.

⁴ Sec. 7, Rule II, IRR – RA 7924, 9 May 1996.

⁵ <http://www.lto.gov.ph/historical-background>; retrieved 18 September 2019.

⁶ <http://ltfrb.gov.ph/Index.php/about/ltfrb-functions/>; retrieved 18 September 2019.

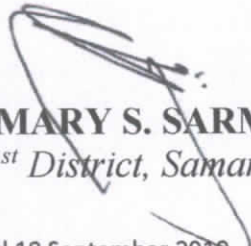
WHEREAS, the Philippine National Police – Highway Patrol Group (PNP-HPG) is the unit within the Philippine National Police responsible for enforcing the traffic laws and regulations, promoting safety along the highways, enhancing traffic safety consciousness through inter-agency cooperation concerning Police Traffic Safety Engineering, Traffic Safety Education and Traffic Law enforcement functions, and developing reforms in the crime prevention aspect against all forms of lawlessness committed along National Highway involving the use of motor vehicles⁷;

WHEREAS, the Philippines, specifically its metropolitan areas, is experiencing crisis in the form of heavy traffic, resulting in the country ranking first in the Traffic Index among Southeast Asian countries and fifth in all Asian countries for 2019⁸;

WHEREAS, to combat this crisis in traffic, there is an undeniable and urgent need to consolidate and harmonize all the traffic management policies and plans of all the government agencies, offices and departments responsible for transportation and traffic management;

WHEREAS, there is a need for the creation and convention of an executive council, with its core members consisting of the leaders of the above enumerated agencies, offices, and departments, to serve as an efficient venue for the consolidation and harmonization of traffic management policies and plans, further consultation with the public, and implementation of the resulting consolidated policies and plans;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives thru the Committee on Transportation to recommend the creation of a Traffic Crisis Inter-Agency Management Council that shall be composed of the DoTr, DILG, MMDA, DPWH and the agencies, offices, and departments above mentioned for the purpose of consolidating and harmonizing all transport and traffic policies to address the urgent traffic crisis in metro manila and in the Philippines.


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⁷ <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/featured/about-the-pnp/>; retrieved 18 September 2019.

⁸ https://www.numbeo.com/traffic/rankings_by_country.jsp?title=2019®ion=035