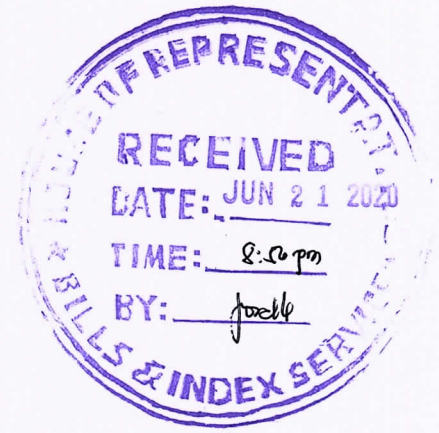


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Resolution No. 993



Introduced by the Honorable Precious Hipolito Castelo

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTR) AND THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES (IATF) TO STUDY THE VIABILITY OF ALLOWING MOTORCYCLE TAXIS WITH PROTECTIVE SHIELDS TO OPERATE DURING THE COMMUNITY QUARANTINE, PROVIDED THAT SAFETY HEALTH PROTOCOLS ARE OBSERVED

WHEREAS, community quarantine restrictions implemented amid the COVID-19 pandemic has forced motorcycle taxi ride-hailing services to halt their operations due to strict social distancing protocols needed to be observed;

WHEREAS, as the country gradually eases quarantine restrictions, it is seen that there is a transportation problem especially in Metro Manila, as there are not enough public utility vehicles (PUVs) operating to ferry the workers to and from their respective workplaces;

WHEREAS, some workers have opted to ride bicycles or walk despite the sheer distance of their daily commute to and from their workplaces;

WHEREAS, it is undeniable that there is a need to address the gap between the supply and demand for transportation, as both the transportation and labor sectors are being largely affected by this discrepancy;

WHEREAS, there is public clamor to allow motorcycle taxis to operate as an alternative mode of transportation especially for the workers who need to personally report in their respective workplaces;

WHEREAS, motorcycle taxi drivers are also appealing for them to be allowed to have an opportunity to earn a living especially now that there is an ongoing crisis;

WHEREAS, in Indonesia, plastic shields were developed and used as a divider between the motorcycle taxi driver and passengers, which the driver can strap backpack style to isolate them from passengers;

WHEREAS, aside from the usage of plastic shields, safety health protocols such as temperature recording through the hailing app, bring-your-own helmet scheme, and regular disinfection of the motorcycle are being strictly administered;

WHEREAS, there is little to no evidence if one mode of transport is safer than another, but considering that the virus is transmitted through respiratory droplets, it is logical that a combination of safety measures will help in alleviating the risk to transmit the virus;

WHEREAS, it may be worthwhile to consider the operation of motorcycle taxis especially in Metro Manila where there is a clear inadequacy of public transportation modes available;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge the DOTR and the IATF to study the viability of allowing motorcycle taxis with protective shields to operate during the community quarantine, provided that safety health protocols are observed.

ADOPTED,


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO