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SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

SENATE P. S. R. No. 445

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NECESSITY TO MANDATE OPERATORS OF PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES TO INSTALL SPEED LIMITERS ON EACH VEHICLE

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2 Section 20 provides: "The State recognizes the indispensable role of the private sector, encourages private enterprise, and provides incentives to needed investments";

WHEREAS, based on a 15 January 2014 article in the *Philippine Star*, over 12,000 netizens have petitioned the government to revoke franchises of bus firms that refuse to install speed limiters on their vehicles;

WHEREAS, according to Mr. James Deakin, he initiated the online petition due to the numerous accidents in Metro Manila attributable to speeding buses and public utility vehicles;

WHEREAS, Mr. Deakin reportedly suggested the installation of mandatory speed limiters on each and every public or private bus in the country which could solve 90 percent of this problem;

WHEREAS, this measure is said to be enforced in Europe where most cars use the gadgets limiting the speeds to 250 kph; buses traveling along major highway EDSA should only be allowed to run under 50 kph;

WHEREAS, despite the fact that the government has adopted several policies to regulate franchises and protect pedestrians and commuters, the online petition claims that accidents still abound and lives have been lost;

WHEREAS, it was reported that one of the primary reason that bus drivers go over the speed limit is because they are racing to the next passengers in order to meet their quota for the day;

WHEREAS, the article said that drivers pay the owner of the bus an average of 12-15,000 pesos a day to run the bus, plus the cost of the fuel; whatever they make on the top of that is their take home pay;

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WHEREAS, it is imperative for the State to impose a steep penalty for the operators who cannot comply with the installation of speed limiters including those who violate the speed limit;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the necessity to mandate operators of public utility vehicles to install speed limiters on each vehicle.

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Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIA

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