

JUL 20 P5 54

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

Intra Regular Session

## SENATE

)

)

)

P.S. Res. No. 1443

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

## A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FEASIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND DRIVER'S LICENSE WITH THE END IN VIEW OF REDUCING, IF NOT COMPLETELY ERADICATING, THE INCIDENCE OF RED TAPE WITHIN THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE

WHEREAS, it is a declared policy of the State to maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption;

WHEREAS, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) is the lead agency mandated to implement and enforce all land transportation laws, rules and regulations including, among others, the registration of motor vehicles and the issuance of permits and licenses to motor vehicle drivers;

WHEREAS, for more than a year or so, the LTO has been plagued with a myriad of complaints from motor vehicle owners and drivers regarding its apparent inability to issue both vehicle license plates and driver's licenses within a reasonable period of time;

WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 4136, as amended, otherwise known as the "Land Transportation and Traffic Code", the LTO Assistant Secretary, with the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communication, shall have the power to issue rules and regulations prescribing the procedure for the registration of motor vehicles;

WHEREAS, by virtue of an existing LTO Administrative Order, the initial registration of brand new vehicles shall be valid and effective for three (3) consecutive years from the date of registration. Thereafter, the said vehicles must be registered annually under a registration scheme prescribed by the LTO;

WHEREAS, RA 4136, as amended, also prescribes the period of validity of all driver's licenses. Under the said law, driver's licenses are valid for three (3) consecutive years reckoned from the birthdate of the licensee unless sooner revoked or suspended<sup>1</sup>;

WHEREAS, under Section 10 of RA 9485 or the Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007, all government offices and agencies providing frontline services shall be subjected to a

œ٩

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 23, RA 4136.

Report Card Survey (RCS) to be initiated by the Civil Service Commission (CSC);

WHEREAS, the RCS shall be used to obtain feedback on how provisions in the Citizen's Charter are being followed and how the agency is performing;

WHEREAS, the RCS shall also be used to obtain information and/or estimates of hidden costs incurred by clients to access frontline services which may include but is not limited to, bribes and payment to fixers;

WHEREAS, in a recent RCS survey conducted by the CSC, thirty-nine (39) government offices came out with failing marks and 21 of those 39 government offices were LTO branches, making LTO as the worst performing agency in terms of cutting red tape<sup>2</sup>;

WHEREAS, in order to improve the efficiency of LTO, the agency must reduce customer wait times and minimize congestion in its field offices;

WHEREAS, one of the possible ways to address the LTO's shortcomings is to extend the period of validity of both motor vehicle registrations and driver's license;

WHEREAS, this policy would minimize the frequency of citizen's transactions with the LTO and will hopefully translate into a dramatic reduction of red tape within the said agency.

**RESOLVED**, that the Philippine Senate, direct the Committee on Public Services to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the feasibility of extending the validity of motor vehicle registration and driver's license with the end in view of reducing, if not completely eradicating the incidence of red tape within the Land Transportation Office.

Adopted,

٤.

RALPH G. RECTO

<sup>2</sup> "984 gov't offices pass anti-red tape check",

http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2015/01/27/1417229/984-govt-offices-pass-anti-red-tapecheck, posted January 27, 2015; "LTO is worst in cutting red tape, survey says", http://www.autoindustriya.com/auto-industry-news/lto-is-worst-in-cutting-red-tape-surveysays.html, posted January 27, 2015.