

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

04 AUG -3 P3:23

SENATE
S.B. No. 1624

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The reduction of response time for the delivery of emergency care will, in turn, prevent fatalities, substantially reduce the severity and extent of injuries, reduce time lost from work, and save thousands of lives and millions of pesos in health care costs.

This bill seeks to promote and enhance public safety through the use of universal emergency assistance number.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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AN ACT
PROMOTING AND ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH THE USE OF
UNIVERSAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE NUMBER

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the ‘Communications and Public Safety Act.’”

SECTION 2. *Purpose.* – The purpose of this Act is to encourage the use of universal emergency assistance number to meet public safety and other communications needs.

SECTION 3. *Universal emergency telephone number.* – Every province shall designate a provincial-wide emergency telephone number within its territorial jurisdiction for reporting an emergency to appropriate authorities and requesting assistance. In making such designation, the province shall provide a transition period for areas that have no access to telephone communications facilities.

SECTION 4. *Formulation of Policies.* – Each province shall formulate policies that will:

(1) encourage members of the public to report significant risks to the safety of members of the traveling public, such as incidents of driving under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, driving aggressively, or other driving behavior that poses a risk to such safety; and

(2) will make significant efforts to minimize, such as through youth and adult driver education, driving behavior that poses a risk to the safety of members of the public.

SECTION 5. *Consultation.* – In carrying out the provisions of the preceding section, each province shall consult local officials responsible for emergency services and public safety, the telecommunications industry, the motor vehicle manufacturing industry, emergency medical providers, public safety, fire service, and law enforcement officials, consumer groups, and hospital emergency and trauma care personnel (including emergency physicians, trauma surgeons, and nurses).

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part thereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law of the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,