

SENATE  
S. No. 285

'19 JUL -8 P3:17

Introduced by Senator **PIA S. CAYETANO**

**AN ACT  
PROMOTING AND RECOGNIZING BICYCLES AS AN ALTERNATIVE MODE OF  
TRANSPORTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. It is also the duty of the State to protect the environment for a balanced and healthful ecology. However, the worsening traffic in the Philippines, especially in highly urbanized areas in the country, has adversely affected the health of many Filipinos and has also left detrimental effects to the environment.

According to the State of Global Air 2019 Report, the Philippines is among the top 10 countries with the highest mortality burden attributable to air pollution, with 64,000 deaths.<sup>1</sup> Aside, from air pollution, traffic jams are also causing unnecessary stress to drivers and commuters which affect their mental well-being. Due to these perennial problems, there has been a need to provide for an alternative and more sustainable mode of transportation.

This bill proposes to recognize bicycles as one of the alternative and sustainable modes of transportation in the country. The need for corresponding bicycle infrastructures and facilities are also provided for in this bill in order to properly integrate bicycles as part of the Philippine public transportation system.

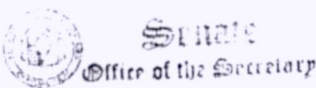
<sup>1</sup> Health Effects Institute. (2019). State of Global Air / 2019. Boston, Massachusetts. Retrieved from [https://www.stateofglobalair.org/sites/default/files/soga\\_2019\\_report.pdf](https://www.stateofglobalair.org/sites/default/files/soga_2019_report.pdf).

The use of bicycles should no longer be seen as merely for leisure purposes but rather it should be recognized as an important non-motorized and environment-friendly mode of transportation that many Filipinos can benefit from.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.




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

- 1           Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Bicycle Act of 2019*".
- 2           Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The Constitution protects and advances the
- 3 right of the Filipino people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the
- 4 rhythm and harmony of nature. Pursuant to this, it is the policy of the State to
- 5 develop and promote alternative modes of transportation by encouraging the use of
- 6 non-motorized and environment-friendly vehicles.
- 7           Sec. 3. *Bicycle as an Alternative Mode of Transportation.* – The use of bicycles
- 8 is hereby recognized as an alternative mode of transportation. A bicycle refers to a
- 9 device that a person may ride which is propelled by human power and has two (2)
- 10 tandem wheels, at least one (1) of which is more than fourteen (14) meters in
- 11 diameter. Biking shall be incorporated as part of public transportation as it effects
- 12 multiple benefits, such as, but not limited to:
- 13           a) a sustainable source of transportation;
- 14           b) an economically viable non-motorized vehicle;
- 15           c) an environment-friendly and pollution-free alternative to motorized
- 16           vehicles; and
- 17           d) an active and healthy lifestyle.



1           Sec. 4. *Bicycle as Part of the Transportation Plan.* – The comprehensive plan  
2 of the Department of Transportation (DOTr) shall recognize the use of bicycles as an  
3 alternative mode of transportation and shall integrate the development of the  
4 necessary infrastructures to support and promote biking.

5           Sec. 5. *Bike Lanes and Other Infrastructure.* – The DOTr with the Department  
6 of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and in coordination with the concerned Local  
7 Government Units (LGUs), shall take the lead in the designation of bicycle lanes  
8 which shall serve as exclusive passage for cyclists. Motor vehicles are prohibited  
9 from being driven or parked on any bike lane.

10          The bike lanes shall be separated by a physical barrier, whenever possible,  
11 and shall be clearly identified with signs and/or pavement markings. In cases where  
12 the installation of a physical barrier is not feasible, the lane for bicycles shall be  
13 identified through reflectorized painted lines.

14          Other bike infrastructure facilities shall include, but are not limited, to the  
15 following:

- 16          a) Sidewalk improvements;
- 17          b) Traffic calming and speed reduction improvements;
- 18          c) Pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements;
- 19          d) Traffic signages pertaining to bicycles;
- 20          e) Off-street pedestrian and bicycle facilities; and
- 21          f) Traffic diversion improvements.

22          Sec. 6. *Parking and Other Bike Parking Facilities.* – All public places,  
23 government offices, schools, major business establishments, including malls, banks,  
24 restaurants, hospitals, and the like, are hereby required to provide adequate bicycle  
25 racks for bike parking and other infrastructure as far as practicable.

26          Sec. 7. *Shower and Changing Rooms.* – The DOTr, together with the  
27 Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall formulate guidelines on  
28 the establishment of shower and changing rooms in bike parking areas.

29          Sec. 8. *Participation of the Private Sector.* – The private sector shall be  
30 encouraged to participate in the promotion of biking as an alternative mode of  
31 transportation and in the development of the necessary infrastructure, facilities and  
32 programs for its implementation.

1           Sec. 9. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of  
2 this Act shall be included in the annual appropriation of the DOTr and DPWH.

3           Sec. 10. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision herein be subsequently  
4 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity or the  
5 legality of the other provisions not so declared.

6           Sec. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,  
7 rules and regulations, other issuances, and parts thereof, which are inconsistent  
8 with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

9           Sec. 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
10 publication in at least (2) newspapers of general circulation.

          Approved,