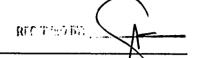
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session



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SENATE

P. S. Res. No 543



Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES (IATF-EID) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTr) TO RESUME ITS PILOT STUDY ON MOTORCYCLE TAXI SERVICE PROVIDERS AND TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR ITS OPERATION, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF AUGMENTING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND SUSTAINING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TOWARDS ECONOMIC RECOVERY

WHEREAS, the Inter-agency Task Force on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) has issued Resolution No. 77 dated October 5, 2020 recommending the grant of the request of Metro Manila local chief executives for the Department of Transportation (DOTr) to continue the pilot study of motorcycle taxis, pending enactment of the appropriate legislation authorizing the same;

WHEREAS, the Metro Manila mayors appealed to the national government for the continued operation of motorcycle taxis to ease commuter woes during the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the DOTr approved the pilot implementation of motorcycle taxis within Metro Manila and Metro Cebu in June 2019 to determine whether motorcycle taxis are a viable and safe alternative mode of transportation;

WHEREAS, the DOTr has issued guidelines for the pilot implementation of motorcycle taxis including safety requirements, sharing of data, fare matrix, number of participating riders, passenger safety campaign, qualifications of riders, motorcycle specifications, and requirements for passengers, among others;

WHEREAS, the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) of the pilot implementation of motorcycle taxis were: a) the accident threshold; b) traffic rules violations reported by traffic enforcement agencies; and c) feedback from frequent customers;

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WHEREAS, DOTr Secretary Arthur Tugade instructed the members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) to discuss issues attendant to the prospect of two-wheel vehicles operating as public transport;

WHEREAS, the government allowed Angkas, JoyRide and MoveIt to operate during the pilot implementation until the lockdown was implemented in the entire island of Luzon due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the study on the ride-hailing motorcycle taxis expired in April 2020, making their operation illegal unless Congress crafts a law that would allow them as a mode of public transportation;

WHEREAS, as the government lifted the enhanced community quarantine to give way to a phased opening of the economy and allowed more businesses to resume operations, a transportation crisis particularly in Metro Manila ensued, as there was a lack of available public transportation for commuters since public transportation operation remains restricted;

WHEREAS, since about sixty percent (60%) of the workforce in Metro Manila is unable to report for work due to the lack of available public transportation during the period of the pandemic, it is undeniable that there is an urgent need for alternative modes of transportation to ferry the workers to and from their respective work areas;

WHEREAS, motorcycle taxi is considered as a comparatively cheaper and more convenient mode of public transportation;

WHEREAS, the recommendations of the TWG on the viability and safety of allowing motorcycle taxis as a mode of public transportation would serve as valuable inputs to

1 Congress as it tackles measures to address the current transportation crisis: Now, 2 therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To support the recommendation of the Inter-agency Task Force on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) for the Department of Transportation (DOTr) to resume its pilot study on motorcycle taxi service providers and to provide guidelines for its operation, with the end in view of augmenting public transportation and sustaining government efforts towards economic recovery.

Adopted,

/mjma