


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

7 JUL -4 P 1:00

SENATE
 S. B. NO. 1051

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In an article published by the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* on 21 April 2007, it was reported that the World Health Organization (WHO) is considering deaths and injuries from motorcycle accidents as a "public health epidemic" in many countries in Asia, including in the Philippines. In its report, the WHO said nearly 1.2 million persons die of road traffic accidents every year, 40 percent of which are under the age of 25. Between 20 million and 50 million are injured every year. Young motorcyclists make up a significant percentage of injuries and fatalities among road users in many Asian countries. The report also identified overspeeding, non-use of helmets, risk-taking behavior, and drunk-driving as factors which contribute to the rising trend.

An Asian Development Bank (ADB) report on road safety in the Philippines said that pedestrians were most at risk of being killed or injured in a road accident. Motorcyclists were a far second, but the report said they were a "growing concern" as the number of motorcycles has been growing by 40 percent per year in the last three years.

According to the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), the Metropolitan Road Safety Unit of their Traffic Operations Center made a report on the distribution of vehicles involved in accidents from January to December 2006. The report showed that motorcycles have the highest fatality accident rate with 122 motorcycles involved or 23.60 per cent of the total fatal accidents, followed by cars with 113 total or 21.86 per cent respectively. For non-fatal accidents, cars have the highest rate with 30.22 per cent share followed by motorcycles with 29.59 per cent.

It is imperative that a law be passed to establish guidelines that will prevent road accidents, particularly those involving motorcycles.¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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¹ This bill was originally filed in the Thirteenth Congress, Third Regular Session.

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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7 JUL -4 P 12

SENATE
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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 BANNING MOTORCYCLES FROM USING
3 MAIN ROADS, HIGHWAYS, AND NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
4 THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

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

7 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Motorcycle and
8 Pedestrian Safety Act of 2007".

9 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State
10 to: (1) protect the safety of pedestrians, (2) promote the safety of motorcycle drivers and
11 passengers, and (3) formulate legislation that will promote traffic decongestion. The state
12 shall provide specific and adequate guidelines to prevent road accidents involving
13 motorcycles.

14 SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.*

- 15 1. Motorcycles - any two-wheeled vehicle such as motorcycles and
16 bicycles
17 2. Highways and national highways - roads designated by the
18 government or local government units as highways or national
19 highways
20 3. Main roads - roads designated by local government units as main roads
21 4. Sidewalks - paved walkways at the side of the street intended for the
22 use of pedestrians
23 5. Helmets - protective head cover used by motorcycle drivers and
24 passengers

1 SECTION 4. *Where motorcycles prohibited.* - Motorcycles and other two-
2 wheeled vehicles such as bicycles shall be prohibited from using main roads, highways,
3 and national highways as designated by the government or by the various local
4 government units throughout the country.

5 SECTION 5. *When motorcycles prohibited.* - Motorcycles and other two-
6 wheeled vehicles such as bicycles shall be prohibited daily along all main roads,
7 highways and national highways throughout the country during the hours from 8:00 a.m.
8 to 5:00 p.m. and from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., except during Saturdays, Sundays and
9 holidays.

10 SECTION 6. *Exceptions.* Exceptions may be made in provinces wherein there
11 is no considerable vehicular traffic and where bicycles, tricycles, and motorcycle are the
12 primary means of transportation. Exceptions can also be made in far flung places in the
13 provinces where motorcycles are the only means of transportation.

14 SECTION 7. *Use of helmets.* It shall be mandatory for all motorcycle drivers and
15 passengers to wear appropriate helmet. Children shall also be required to wear the
16 appropriately-sized helmet while riding motorcycles.

17 SECTION 8. *Use of sidewalks.* It shall be prohibited for motorcycles to use the
18 sidewalk intended for the use of pedestrians.

19
20 SECTION 9. *Compulsory use of daytime running lights* - It shall be compulsory
21 for motorcycles to use daylight running lights and motorcycle headlights during daytime
22 to allow riders to clearly see the road and other vehicles.

23 SECTION 10. *Implementing Agency.* The overall implementing agency for this
24 Act shall be the Land Transportation office (LTO). In the Metropolitan Manila area, the
25 LTO shall be assisted by the local traffic enforcers. In the provinces, the respective local
26 government units shall implement the provisions of this Act.

1 SECTION 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The LTO shall formulate
2 the implementing rules and regulation for this Act not later than 120 days after its
3 passage into law.

4 SECTION 12. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part thereof, is held
5 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise
6 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

7 SECTION 13. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
8 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to,
9 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended
10 accordingly.

11 SECTION 14. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
12 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.

Rec/5/23/07