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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1238

RECEIVED ON 10

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There seem to be no end to road diggings and excavations by both public and private entities and worst, there appears to be no coordination on these road works among the various agencies of government. It is not unusual to see the asphaltting and concreting of a particular stretch of road by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and then comes the MWSS digging or destroying a portion of the same newly-cemented, paved or asphalted road to repair or lay down its water pipes.

These road works, whether completed on time or not, invariably lead to a narrowing of roads and worsening of traffic jams. Apart also from causing great public inconvenience, the said road diggings and excavations contribute to dangerous accidents to persons and vehicles. Likewise, there have been several cases where children have drowned in water filled holes and pedestrians falling into gaping excavations.

It is high time that appropriate measures be taken to prevent the recurrence of such accidents and public inconvenience caused by wanton road diggings and other road works.

This bill, therefore, is being introduced to require all entities, whether public or private, to put up large billboards indicating or announcing the timetable for the start and termination of road diggings, repairs and road constructions, the same to be placed on the sites where such road works are to be made. This way, the public would know when to expect the return to normal use of the particular road in question.

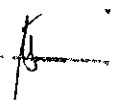
The approval of this legislation is earnestly requested.


MANNY VILLAR

10 JUL 12 P2:11

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**AN ACT
TO PREVENT WANTON AND INDISCRIMINATE ROAD DIGGINGS AND
ROAD REPAIRS BY REQUIRING THE PUTTING UP OF CONSPICUOUS
SIGNAGE OR LARGE BILLBOARDS ON THE SITES OF SUCH ROAD
WORKS ANNOUNCING THE COMMENCEMENT AND COMPLETION DATES
THEREOF, IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Any entity or firm, whether public or private, which shall undertake an underground digging or excavation on any national or local road in connection with a project, undertakes any road repair or road construction project, shall be required to put up on the site where such road excavations, repairs or constructions are to be made, a conspicuous signage or large billboard indicating the commencement and completion dates of such road works.

The signage or billboard shall also contain information on the name of the entity, firm, or office undertaking the road diggings, repairs or constructions and the purpose or the project for which the same is being undertaken.

SEC. 2. This Act shall cover road diggings, repairs or constructions undertaken by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), local government units (LGUs), the Maynilad Water System, as well as those undertaken by private entities such as the Philippine Long Distance Company (PLDT) and other telecommunication firms, including gas and other utility companies undertaking underground works.

SEC. 3. All such road diggings, repairs or constructions shall be finished and completed on the termination date stated in the billboard.

SEC. 4. The barangay captains in the city or municipality shall be responsible for monitoring compliance with the provisions of this Act and to immediately report any violations thereof to the office of the city or municipal mayor concerned which shall take appropriate action in accordance with this Act.

SEC. 5. Any violation of the provisions of this Act, including the abandonment or non-completion of the road digging, repair or construction project within the announced scheduled period of completion, shall be penalized with imprisonment ranging from one (1) month to six (6) months, or a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00), nor not more than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00), or both such fine and imprisonment: Provided, That if the violation is committed by a partnership, corporation, or association, or by an agency or instrumentality of the government , or by a government-owned or controlled corporation, the penalty shall be imposed upon the manager, director/s, or official/s responsible for, or in charge of, the project involving the road digging repair or construction.

SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,