

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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 27 1934

SENATE
S. No. 1870

RECEIVED BY: *lv*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 5, provides:

The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all people of the blessings of democracy.

Hundreds of children are killed and injured in motor vehicle crashes every year. Unfortunately, the government neither requires the use of, nor establishes certain standards and testing procedures for, child restraints. In order to reduce the number of children killed or injured in automobile accidents, the government should require the use of child restraints and establish motor vehicle safety standards that will adequately protect children.

Hence, this bill seeks to provide for the creation of safety standards for child restraints and to require child passengers to use such restraints, subject to the following considerations:

- (a) The modern designs of motor vehicles in use as of the date of enactment of this Act;
- (b) The effects of a side-impact crash, a rear-impact crash, or a rollover crash; and
- (c) The use of anthropomorphic devices that accurately reflect the heights and masses of children at ages other than newborn, nine months, three years, and six years.*

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MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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1 AN ACT
2 PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF SAFETY STANDARDS FOR CHILD RESTRAINTS
3 IN MOTOR VEHICLES AND REQUIRING THE USE OF SUCH RESTRAINTS BY CHILD
4 PASSENGERS

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

5 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Child Passenger Protection
6 Act.”

7 SECTION 2. *Testing of Child Restraints.* –

8 (A) *In General.* – Not later than six (6) months after the passage of this Act, the Secretary
9 of Transportation and Communication (here called “Secretary”) shall promulgate crash test
10 standards and conditions for child restraints.

11 (B) *Elements for Consideration.* – In carrying out paragraph (A), the Secretary and
12 Communication shall consider –

13 (1) Whether to conduct more comprehensive and dynamic testing of child
14 restraints than is typically conducted as of the date of passage of this Act, including the
15 use of test platforms designed –

16 (a) To simulate an array of accident conditions, such as side-impact
17 crashes, rear-impact crashes, and rollover crashes; and

18 (b) To reflect the designs of passenger motor vehicles in use as of the date
19 of passage of this Act;

20 (2) Whether to use an increased number of anthropomorphic devices in a greater
21 variety of heights and masses; and

1 (3) Whether to provide improved protection in motor vehicle accidents for
2 children up to 59.2 inches tall who weigh more than fifty (50) pounds.

3 (C) *Required Elements.* – In carrying out paragraph (A), the Secretary shall –

4 (1) Require that manufacturers design child restraints to minimize head injuries
5 during side-impact and rollover crashes, including requiring that child restraints have
6 side-impact protection;

7 (2) Include a child restraint, as a requirement, in each vehicle applying for
8 registration;

9 (C) Prescribe readily understandable text for any labels that are required to be
10 placed on child restraints.

11 (D) *Funding.* – There are appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the
12 provisions of this Act.

13 SECTION 3. *Child Restraint Safety Training Program.* – Not later than six (6) months
14 after the passage of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and implement a safety rating program
15 for child restraints to provide practicable, readily understandable, and timely information to
16 parents and caretakers for use in making informed decisions in the purchase of child restraints.

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

20 SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
21 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent
22 with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

23 SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,