

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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

9 FEB 24 13:10

SENATE
S. No. 3094

RECEIVED BY



Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The noise level in our cities is rapidly increasing. This is due to heavier traffic and more powerful engines. On top of that there is a growing number of vehicles which are much louder due to the fact that their owners install or modify mufflers which can be heard from a kilometer away.

The noise produced by these vehicles not only lowers the quality of life and work of the majority of people but also can result in permanent hearing loss for vehicle operators and people nearby (this includes unborn children, since noise penetrates the womb). At high levels this noise can result even in tissue damage (body parts and organs resonate and tissues can fracture at some low frequencies) leading to serious health problems.

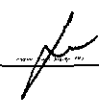
Vehicles with modified mufflers are highly distracting in traffic and can cause accidents since they mask sounds and agitate drivers. Loud sounds can affect hearing, vision, reaction time and judgment of drivers and nearby people increasing dangers significantly for everyone involved.

This Bill seeks to regulate the modification of mufflers to increase noise emitted from a vehicles exhaust system in order to prevent excessive or unusual noise and annoying smoke.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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1 AN ACT
2 PROHIBITING MODIFICATION OF MUFFLERS TO INCREASE NOISE EMITTED
3 FROM EXHAUST SYSTEMS.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
6 *Congress assembled:*
7

8 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act may be known as the "*Anti-muffler*
9 *Modification Act*".
10

11 SECTION 2. *Muffler Conditions.* - Every motor vehicle shall at all times be
12 equipped with a muffler in good working order, and in constant operation to prevent
13 excessive or unusual noise and annoying smoke.
14

15 The engine and power mechanism of every motor vehicle shall must be so
16 equipped and adjusted as to prevent the escape of excessive fumes or smoke.
17

18 SECTION 3. *Prohibitions* - A person may not operate a motor vehicle with an
19 exhaust system that emits a noise in excess of 95 decibels, or modify the exhaust system
20 of a motor vehicle in a manner that will amplify or increase the noise emitted by the
21 engine of the motor vehicle in excess of the noise emitted by the muffler installed on the
22 motor vehicle in the manufacturer's original design.
23

24 SECTION. 4. *Penalties.* - Any person who shall violate the provisions of this Act
25 shall upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than Ten thousand pesos
26 (P10,000.00) but not more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) or imprisonment of
27 not less than two (2) months but not more than one (1) year, or both upon the discretion
28 of the court.
29

30 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part thereof, is held
31 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise
32 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
33

34 SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
35 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to,
36 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended
37 accordingly.

38

39 SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
40 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

41

42 Approved.