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S E N A T E

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

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**RESOLUTION**  
**URGING THE COMMITTEES ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES TO**  
**CONDUCT A STUDY ON INSTITUTIONALIZING A "GREEN TRANSPORT POLICY" IN**  
**THE LIGHT OF WORSENING LEVEL OF AIR POLLUTION IN THE COUNTRY**

*Whereas*, Section 16 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that, "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

*Whereas*, according to the World Bank's country environmental analysis (CEA), 1.5 million Filipinos of varying ages are afflicted with respiratory sickness annually due to outdoor air pollution (OAP) in urban areas, while a third of that number suffer from various illnesses due to indoor air pollution (IAP);

*Whereas*, The World Health Organization ranks urban outdoor air pollution as the thirteenth greatest contributor to disease burden and death worldwide in addition to raising the risk of respiratory illnesses;

*Whereas*, according to the World Bank's environmental report on the Philippines, air pollution is costing the economy billions of Pesos in productivity loss and health care expenses;

*Whereas*, OAP-related illness alone is costing the economy P950 million annually, including productivity loss which is income and time loss due to absence from work and household activities, and P360 million for personal costs for treatment of disease;

*Whereas*, vehicular emission is one of the major contributors to OAP;

*Whereas*, possible solutions to curb the effects of OAP are improved vehicle inspection and maintenance programs, shift from two-stroke to four stroke tricycles, introduction of cleaner fuels and installation of pollution-control devices in vehicles, policy development relating to transportation issues and increased investment in mass transport systems;

*Whereas*, since 1994, motorcycles and tricycles have outnumbered private cars as the second-largest group of vehicles on Philippine roads after public utility vehicles and in 2001, according to figures from the Land Transportation Office, motorcycles and tricycles made up 35% of the 3.9 million registered vehicles nationwide, while cars only accounted for 19%;

*Whereas*, preventive maintenance may include but are not limited to the use of quality 2T oils, adoption of harmonized fuel quality standards such as Euro 4 and providing subsidies or loans for people to convert their two-stroke engines to liquefied petroleum gas;

*Whereas*, development and investment in mass transport systems may include but are not limited to increased train routes as well as operational train units and development of Bus Rapid Transit as defined under the environmentally sustainable transport (EST) strategy of the Department of Transportation and Communication;

*Whereas*, policy development relating to transportation issues may include but are not limited to the promotion and construction of bicycle lanes and parking slots, establishment of additional road traffic safety zones and strict enforcement of traffic laws;

*Whereas*, it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that nature and environment is protected and maintained, not only on a local level but also in a global scale, the protection and preservation of which will redound to mankind in general; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Committees on Environment and Public Services to conduct a study on institutionalizing a "Green Transport Policy" in the light of worsening level of air pollution in the country.

Adopted,



MANNY VILLAR  
Senator