SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



13 JUL 18 P3:17

SENATE

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S. No. <u>929</u>

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As observed by stakeholders in the airline industry, the rise of low-cost carriers over the past few years invited even the low end of the market to travel by air. This robust growth of air traffic should be balanced by corresponding airline security practices. Consequently, airline regulations forbid intoxicated passengers from boarding aircrafts. However, airline personnel find themselves little equipped to handle violations of this regulation. Greater disruptions result when inexperienced or unequipped personnel handle intoxicated or disruptive passengers poorly.

The provision of training to flight attendants and gate attendants for the proper manner of handling intoxicated and disruptive passengers would promote order in air travel and the safety of passengers.

The proposed measure establishes a training system for airline personnel in the appropriate and effective manner of dealing with disruptive passengers. By equipping airline staff with sufficient training, carriers ensure the safety, peace, and orderliness of the airport and aircraft as well as that of other passengers.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

UEL "LITO" M. I

Senator

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AN ACT

REQUIRING AIRLINE CARRIERS TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO FLIGHT ATTENDANTS AND GATE ATTENDANTS REGARDING THE SERVICE OF ALCOHOL, THE RECOGNITION OF INTOXICATED PASSENGERS, AND THE MANNER OF ENGAGING DISRUPTIVE PASSENGERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the 'Airline Personnel Training Enhancement Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - The State, in its pursuit to develop and maximize the potential of air transportation and to likewise properly adapt to the developments in foreign and domestic commerce, considers the safety and reliability of air transport services and the development of a viable and globally competitive Philippine aviation industry matters of public interest, in accordance with the demand for public convenience and necessity. As such, the State shall implement measures to prevent the presence of intoxicated and disruptive passengers on flights.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - For purposes of this Act, the terms:

- (1) "Air carrier" means a person or commercial enterprise that has been issued an air carrier operating certificate and utilizes aircrafts as its means of transport of passengers or freight.
- (2) "Flight attendant" means an airline employee who assists passengers in an aircraft such as by serving meals, attending to passengers' comfort, and the like.

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- (3) "Gate attendant" means an individual working at an airport whose responsibilities include facilitating passengers' access to commercial aircrafts.
- (4) "Passenger" means an individual travelling on a commercial aircraft, and who shall be treated as such from the time he/she arrives at the airport from which such aircraft departs until the time he/she leaves the airport to which such aircraft is scheduled to arrive.

SEC. 4. Enhanced Training of Flight Attendants and Gate Attendants. – The training to be required of and extended to flight attendants and gate attendants shall conform to the following standards:

- (1) Training Required In addition to other training required, each air carrier shall provide initial and annual recurring training for flight attendants and gate attendants employed or contracted by such air carrier regarding:
 - (a) serving alcohol to passengers;
 - (b) recognizing intoxicated passengers; and
 - (c) dealing with disruptive passengers.
- (2) Situational Training In carrying out the training required under Section 4(1)(a) herein, each air carrier shall provide situational training to flight attendants and gate attendants on the proper method of dealing with intoxicated passengers who act in a belligerent manner.

SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of the Department of Transportation shall immediately include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Transportation shall have the power to issue the implementing rules and regulations required to establish standards for training to be extended in accordance with this Act as well as to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or

inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause – If any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Effectivity* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.

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