

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

13 JUL 22 P2:17

SENATE

S. No. 1012

Introduced by Senator Antonio "SONNY" F. Trillanes IV

Explanatory Note

This bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 8750, otherwise known as the Seatbelts Use Act of 1999 by requiring all passengers and drivers of school services such as school buses to use their seatbelts.

Crash test and case study data indicate that seat belts provide improved crash protection and are especially beneficial in side-impact and rollover school bus accidents. Seat belts also reduce other types of injuries by restraining children who may otherwise be out of their seats. This also helps improve passenger behavior and reduce distractions to school bus drivers. In addition, seat belts provide another important benefit, namely, educating children as to seat belt use and reinforcing seat belt use in motor vehicles.

Although school services accidents are relatively rare in the country, when they do occur, innocent children wind up as casualties, and the whole community is affected. It is therefore imperative to promote the safety of our children by providing standards in their public transportation.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator



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SENATE

S. No. 1012

BY: *ja*

Introduced by Senator Antonio "SONNY" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
REQUIRING THE USE OF SEATBELT DEVICES IN SCHOOL SERVICES,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 8750, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE SEATBELTS USE ACT OF 1999

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8750, otherwise known as the Seatbelts
2 Use Act of 1999 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3
4 **SECTION 4. *Mandatory Use of Seat Belts.*** - For their own safety, the driver
5 and front seat passengers of a public or private motor vehicle are required to wear or
6 use their seat belt devices while inside a vehicle of running engine on any road or
7 thoroughfare: Provided, That for private vehicles, except for jeepneys, vans, buses
8 and such other private vehicles as may be determined in the Implementing Rules and
9 Regulations (IRR), front and back seat passengers are likewise required to use their
10 seat belt devices at all times.

11 In the case of public motor vehicles, the driver shall be required to
12 immediately inform and require the front seat passengers upon boarding a vehicle of
13 running engine to wear the prescribed seat belts. Any passenger who refuses to wear
14 seat belts shall not be allowed to continue his/her trip.

15 For special public service vehicles [such as school services and other similar
16 vehicles], **EXCEPT FOR SCHOOL SERVICES**, as may be determined by the
17 IRR, seat belt devices should be provided and used by both drivers and front seat

1 passengers as defined herein and the first row passengers immediately behind the
2 driver at all times while inside a vehicle of running engine.

3 Operational motor vehicles, both public and private, which are not equipped with
4 the required seat belt devices, are given one (1) year from the issuance of the IRR
5 by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) to retrofit appropriate seat belt devices
6 in their vehicles.

7 **SEC 2.** Another section is to be added after Section 4 to read as follows:

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9 **SECTION. 5. SEATBELTS IN SCHOOL SERVICES.** – FOR
10 SCHOOL SERVICES SUCH AS SCHOOL BUSES, SEAT BELT DEVICES
11 SHOULD BE PROVIDED AND USED BY BOTH DRIVERS AND ALL
12 PASSENGERS AT ALL TIMES WHILE INSIDE SUCH VEHICLE OF
13 RUNNING ENGINE.

14 ALL SCHOOL BUSES PURCHASED BY PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
15 SCHOOLS SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH SEATBELT DEVICES IN
16 COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE INDUSTRY STANDARDS.

17 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL ADOPT RELEVANT
18 PROGRAMS AND RULES:

- 19 1. REQUIRING THE USE OF SEAT BELT DEVICES BY PUPILS BETWEEN
20 THE AGES OF FOUR AND TWELVE ON SCHOOL SERVICES SUCH AS
21 SCHOOL BUSES;
- 22 2. PROVIDING APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINE FOR ANY PUPIL WHO FAILS
23 TO COMPLY WITH THIS SECTION AND ANY RULE ADOPTED
24 REGARDING THE USE OF SEAT BELT DEVICES ON SCHOOL
25 SERVICES SUCH AS SCHOOL BUSES;
- 26 3. ENCOURAGING PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND COMMUNITY
27 ASSOCIATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EDUCATION OF
28 STUDENTS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF USING SEATBELT DEVICES.

1 **SEC. 3. Separability Clause.** – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
2 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
3 remain valid and subsisting.

4
5 **SEC. 4. Repealing Clause.** – Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8750, otherwise
6 known as the Seatbelts Use Act of 1999, and all laws, presidential decrees or issuances,
7 executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules or regulations contrary
8 to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, modified, or
9 amended accordingly.

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11 **SEC. 5. Effectivity Clause.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
12 complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
13 circulation.

Approved,