

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

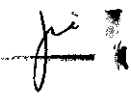


Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1554

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE


The need to conduct a compulsory registration of heavy equipment is long overdue. It is surprising that despite the compulsory registration of motor vehicles, no such registration for heavy equipment is required under existing laws, rules and regulations in the Philippine setting.

Aside from generating substantial income for the Government, the compulsory registration of heavy equipment could curb, if not totally eliminate, the practice of unscrupulous contractors who leave projects unfinished or after merely obtaining the initial mobilization fee for a particular infrastructure project they just completely disappear.

This proposed measure would also prevent the practice of leasing the same heavy equipment to two or more different contractors, working on different projects on the same dates but at different sites. Such practice causes the delay of most infrastructure and public works projects. It would further prevent any and all misrepresentation by the contractors with regards to ownership of heavy equipment thereby helping the Government Pre-Qualification, Bids and Awards Committee (PBAC) in the determination and compliance of pre-qualification requirements.

With the compulsory registration of heavy equipment, owners/lessors and lessees of heavy equipment will be properly identified and these unscrupulous contractors will be blacklisted for good.

The immediate passage of this measure is necessary to achieve a rational registration scheme for heavy equipment and curtail the unscrupulous practices of contractors. Hence, its approval is imperative.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF HEAVY
EQUIPMENT

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

SECTION 1. *Compulsory Registration of Heavy Equipment.* - The provision of any existing law to the contrary notwithstanding, all heavy equipment such as, but not limited to, earthmoving equipment, compaction equipment, lifting equipment, excavating equipment operated on or upon any part of the Philippines must be registered with the Land Transportation Office (LTO) for the current year in accordance with the provision of Republic Act No. 4136, otherwise known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code, as amended.

SEC. 2. *Registration and Scheduling of Fees.* - The Land Transportation Office (LTO) is hereby empowered to prepare the details of a registration scheme wherein the registration of the heavy equipment will be equitably distributed over different month in a given calendar year.

Furthermore, the LTO is hereby empowered to prepare a schedule of registration fees subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC), in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF). The scheduling of said fees shall be determined on the basis of model, body configuration, weight, cubic displacement or number of cylinders of heavy equipment and other pertinent factors. Said schedule shall not be changed more often that once every three (3) years and only upon due notice given to the public at least ninety (90) calendar days before the effectivity of such schedule.

SEC. 3. *Applicability.* - The provisions of Republic Act No. 4136, as amended, pertaining to the compulsory registration of motor vehicles shall apply to the compulsory registration of heavy equipment when not in conflict with this Act.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,