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SENATE S. No. **2775** 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

## AN ACT ESTABLISHING PROPER JEEPNEY TERMINALS AND STOPS IN THE COUNTRY AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES THEREOF

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

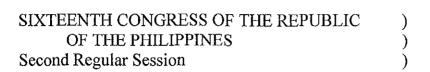
The Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 states: "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy."

Developed after World War 2, jeepneys were created primarily as a mode of transportation. However, throughout the years they have become a cultural icon in the Philippines. Nonetheless, jeepneys are considered both a boon and a bane by commuters. Pejoratively known as the "king of the road," jeepneys, or their drivers, are usually blamed by commuters as one of the causes for frequent traffic jams in cities. However, given the weak and inadequate government-funded public transportation system in the country, it is undeniable that jeepneys are still an indispensible form of transportation.

Jeepney terminals and stop-overs are usually determined and established by local government units. However, commuters have expressed frustration that even with designated areas for the loading and unloading of passengers, the loading and offloading at these points are not strictly enforced. In some cases, jeepney drivers are even forced to offload passengers at non-designated stop areas because these passengers would suddenly try to alight from the vehicle.

To curb the worsening traffic situation in the country, the government should establish proper jeepney stops and terminals to strengthen connectivity and improve public transportation logistics. This bill therefore seeks to mandate the proper government agencies to coordinate with local government units in designating jeepneys stops and terminals. This bill also aims to penalize erring jeepneys drivers, operators, and even passengers, in order to instill discipline in the commuting public.

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO





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## Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

1 2 3	AN ACT ESTABLISHING PROPER JEEPNEY TERMINALS AND STOPS IN THE COUNTRY AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES THEREOF
4	SECTION 1. Short Title This Act shall be known as the "Jeepney Terminals
5	and Stops Act."
6	SECTION 2. Definition of Terms. –
7	a. Concerned government agencies shall mean the Department of
8	Transportation and Communication (DOTC), Land Transportation Office
9	(LTO), LTFRB, and the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), for
10	areas covered by its jurisdiction.
11	b. Jeepneys shall mean public utility jeepneys (PUJs) duly registered with the
12	Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB).
13	c. Jeepney terminals shall mean a permanent passenger station, office, and
14	yard for public utility jeepneys, which may also serve as a loading and an
15	unloading area for passengers.
16	d. Jeepney stops shall mean a common place for the stopover of PUJs located
17	along regular routes for transportation.
18	SECTION 3. Jeepney Terminals Within one year from the effectivity of this
19	Act, concerned government agencies, together with concerned local government units,

shall establish jeepney terminals, which shall have an office for jeepney operations, a

2 restroom open to the public and a waiting shed

SECTION 4. Jeepney Stops. — Within one year from effectivity of this Act, concerned government agencies, together with the concerned local government units, shall establish jeepney stops along the usual route of PUJs, which shall have a waiting shed and proper signage indicating the route of PUJs plying the area and the corresponding penalties for non-compliance with this Act. Jeepney stops shall not be less than 100 meters from each other and shall take into consideration areas where most people board and alight. Jeepney stops may also be established in front of schools, hospitals, churches, and city or municipal halls, regardless of whether such stops comply with the 100-meter requirement.

SECTION 5. Seminar Requirement. — The DOTC, together with the local government unit shall, every January and July of the year, conduct a seminar for PUJ operators and drivers on traffic rules and regulations, road etiquette, driving safety, the creation of new terminals and stops, and the penalties provided for under this law. All PUJ operators and drivers shall be required to attend at least one of the seminars held for the year. The DOTC and the local government unit shall issue a certificate to all operators and drivers attending the seminar. The certificate shall be issued at no cost. The LTFRB shall not renew the license of PUJ drivers who do not present the certificate as proof that he or she has attended the seminar.

## SECTION 6. *Penalties.* – The following penalties shall be imposed:

a. For the first offense, a jeepney driver who loads or unloads a passenger or passengers at non-designated jeepney stops shall pay a fine of five hundred pesos (\$\mathbb{P}\$500.00). For the second offense of the same act, the jeepney driver shall suffer a fine of one thousand and five hundred pesos (\$\mathbb{P}\$1,500.00). For the

third offense of the same act, both the jeepney operator and driver shall pay a fine of three thousand pesos (\$\mathbb{P}\$3,000.00) each and the jeepney driver shall undergo a seminar on traffic rules and regulations. For the fourth offense, the license of the jeepney driver shall be suspended for six months and the jeepney operator shall pay a fine of five thousand pesos (\$\mathbb{P}\$5,000.00). For the fifth offense, the license of the jeepney driver shall be revoked and the franchise of the jeepney operator shall be suspended for one year.

- b. For the first offense, a passenger who alights at non-designated jeepney stops shall be required to attend a seminar on traffic rules and regulations. For the second offense, a passenger who alights at non-designated jeepney stops shall pay a fine of one thousand pesos (\$\mathbb{P}\$1000.00) and for the third offense of the same act, the passenger shall pay a fine of two thousand pesos (\$\mathbb{P}\$2,000.00).
- c. A jeepney operator or driver who fails to comply with Section 5 of this Act shall pay a fine of three thousand pesos (\$\mathbb{P}3,000.00).

SECTION 7. Payment of Fines. – Fines shall be paid to and collected by the treasury of the local government unit. Twenty five percent (25%) of the fines collected shall redound to the local government unit having primary jurisdiction over the area where the offense was committed; the other twenty five percent (25%) of the fines collected shall redound to the benefit of the traffic enforcers responsible for apprehending the violators; and fifty percent (50%) of the fines collected shall revert to the National Treasury.

SECTION 8. Information Dissemination Campaign. – The concerned government agencies shall ensure that within 30 days from the approval of this Act, the public is properly informed about the provisions stated here.

- SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days from
- 2 the promulgation of this Act, the necessary rules and regulations for the proper
- 3 implementation of its provisions shall be formulated by the DOTC, LTO, LTFRB, and
- 4 MMDA. These government agencies shall also ensure and include in the implementing
- 5 rules and regulations the process for the speedy and efficient collecting of fines.
- 6 SECTION 10. Separability Clause. If any provision or part hereof, is held
- 7 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise
- 8 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
- 9 SECTION 11. Repealing Clause. Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
- 10 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
- 12 accordingly.
- SECTION 12. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
- 14 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,