SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

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S. B. NO. 333

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) CAMERAS ON ROADS INCLUDED IN ROUTES OF PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

CCTV or Closed Circuit Television refers to a visible or covert video system intended for only a limited number or viewers. In Closed Circuit TV (CCTV), the picture is viewed or recorded, but not broadcast. It was initially developed as a means of security for banks and casinos; however, today it has been developed to the point where it is simple and expensive enough to be used with Home Security Systems, and for everyday surveillance.¹

From its inception up to the present time, CCTV has been found useful especially in assisting the law enforcement authority in their investigations and apprehending criminals. Furthermore, investigation of road mishaps and improved forecasting of traffic situations have been effectively managed and monitored through the use of CCTV. In light of this, the Department of Interior and Local Government spearheaded the Project Safe Kam last May 2015 to advance the anti-crime initiative of the Philippine National Police's Oplan Lambat-Sibat. Said project utilizes CCTV cameras to facilitate the arrest of criminals and prevent the occurrence of crimes.

In addition to that, video recordings in CCTV Cameras may be used as competent evidence in road accidents and/or cases involving violation of traffic laws and be of great importance in determining who's at fault in such kind of mishaps. In the case of Don Mariano Transit whose bus plunged from the Skyway in Parañaque City killing nineteen people on December 16, 2013, one of the evidence presented during the LTFRB's hearing were the Skyway's CCTV footage of the accident. And in connection with this, the Metro Manila Development Authority implemented the "no-contact apprehension policy" which employs CCTV, digital cameras, and other

¹ What is CCTV? Retrieved, February 10,2014 from http://whatiscctv.com.

gadget or technology to capture videos and images to apprehend vehicles violating traffic rules, and regulations.

In spite the significant use of CCTV Cameras, not all major roads where Public Utility Vehicles (PUVs) pass along have CCTV Cameras monitoring and recording road situation 24 hours per day and 7 days per week. As such, it is harder to determine the true events that occurred during road mishaps.

This would be understandable if the costs of CCTV systems are prohibitive. But the fact is, the advent of technology has allowed for the lowering of these costs, a fact that allows for a civilized world to thrive in the areas aforementioned: effective law enforcement through better investigation and availability of evidence, forecasting of traffic situations, and of course, some of the basic necessities in the areas of security that was previously a luxury afforded only to select few companies, individuals, and even governments.

It is high time to bring these benefits to all of the Filipino people, not only in the metropolis of Manila, but all over the country.

This measure requires the mandatory installation of CCTV Cameras along the roads included in routes of public utility buses, Public Utility Jeepneys and other Public Utility Vehicles intended to be used as a tool for efficient road incident monitoring and substantial support in investigation involving violation of laws, rules and regulations, and ordinance.

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

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

Senator

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

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SENATE 333

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) CAMERAS ON ROADS INCLUDED IN ROUTES OF PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be 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 "CCTV Cameras for Road Incident Monitoring Act of 2016".
- 3 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is the policy of the State to serve and protect the people, to maintain peace and order, to protect life, liberty,
- 5 and property, and to promote the general welfare.
- 6 **SECTION 3. Mandatory Installation of CCTV Cameras** Agencies, Local Government Units (LGUs), and other department of the government having
- 8 jurisdiction over all roads included in Routes of Public Utility Buses, Public
- 9 Utility Jeepneys and other Public Utility Vehicles are hereby required and
- mandated to install and maintain in good working condition Closed-Circuit
- 11 Television (CCTV) Cameras along the aforementioned roads to be used for
- 12 efficient road incident monitoring.
- 13 SECTION 4. Use of Video Recordings. The video recordings obtained
- 14 pursuant to the mandatory installed CCTV cameras in accordance with this
- 15 Act shall be available for use and may be disclosed by any member or officer
- 16 of a law enforcement agency in connection with and limited to investigation
- or prosecution of an offense punishable by law or regulation.
- 18 **SECTION 5. Implementing Agency.** The Department of Interior and Local
- 19 Government, Department of Public Works and Highways, Metropolitan
- 20 Manila Development Authority, Department of Transportation and
- 21 Communications and the respective local government units with
- jurisdictions over the area covering the routes of the PUVs, PUBs, and PUJs
- 23 shall ensure the implementation and enforcement of this Act.

- 1 SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within ninety (90)
- 2 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Department of Interior
- 3 and Local Government together with Department of Public Works and
- 4 Highways, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, Department of
- 5 Transportation and Communications and the respective local government
- 6 units with jurisdictions over the area covering the aforementioned routes
- 7 shall make rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.
- 8 SECTION 7. Appropriation. Such sums as may be necessary for the
- 9 immediate implementation of the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized
- 10 to be appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise
- 11 appropriated. Thereafter, funds for its implementation shall be included in
- 12 the regular appropriations of Department of Interior and Local Government.
- 13 **SECTION 8. Separability Clause.** If any provision or part hereof, is held
- 14 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision thereof
- 15 shall remain valid and subsisting.
- 16 SECTION 9. Repealing Clause. Any law, presidential decree, issuance,
- 17 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation
- 18 contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby
- 19 repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.
- 20 SECTION 10. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
- 21 days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general
- 22 circulation.
- 23 Approved,