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

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

S. No. 558

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

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AN ACT  
TO REQUIRE CERTAIN VEHICLES/CARRIAGES TRAVERSING MAIN AND  
SECONDARY ROADS TO USE REFLECTORS, PROVIDING PENALTIES  
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The general welfare of the public, specifically the commuters, should be at all times protected from the dangers brought about by other moving vehicle or carriages that are not easily seen in the street.

In 2014, there were a total of 90,258 road accidents in Metro Manila alone – that is an average of 248 accidents per day. Road accidents, especially those involving public utility vehicles, figure highly in the national accident statistics.

Informal transport modes such as *karitons*, fishball carts, power hand tractor (*kuliglig*) with trailer, and horse carriages also contribute to these road accidents for the reason that they do not have headlights or backlights, rendering them inconspicuous in roads. The *kuliglig* in particular, has been one of the major culprits in rural accidents - causing fatalities to pedestrians and public transport users. From May to November 2007, reports have shown that *kuliglig*-related accidents in Pangasinan alone resulted to the death of seven people and more than sixty injured persons.

It may be true that accidents are part of our lives. However, there will always be a way to prevent these accidents from occurring. It is high time that we put a greater emphasis on improving road safety, particularly in the implementation of an effective road safety program.


This bill seeks to put an end to the numerous deaths and accidents, most especially during nighttime, caused by the informal transport modes traversing the roads. This bill distinctively requires the said vehicles traversing main and secondary roads to use reflectors. To further achieve the objectives of this measure, concerned government agencies shall be mandated to provide programs to educate the general public concerning the same matter.

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

  
ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV  
Senator

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

1           **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act may be cited as the "Reflectorized Vehicles and  
2 Carriages Act".  
3

4           **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to  
5 promote the general welfare of the public, specifically the commuters, and protect them from  
6 the dangers brought about by other moving vehicles or carriages that are not easily seen in the  
7 street. It is also the policy of the State to implement measures that aim to achieve road safety  
8 and provide programs to educate the general public concerning the same matter.  
9

10           **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** - For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be  
11 defined as follows:  
12

13           a) Carriage/vehicle - any moving improvised wheeled-vehicle or carriage:

- 14                   1. which crosses the main and secondary roads;
- 15                   2. including, but not limited to: karitons, fishball carts, hand tractor or the power  
16                   hand tractor (kuliglig) with trailer, and horse carriages;
- 17                   3. that do not have headlights or backlights, conspicuous in the streets or roads;  
18                   and  
19                   4. other similar informal transport modes;
- 20                   5. other similar informal transport modes;
- 21                   6. other similar informal transport modes;
- 22                   7. other similar informal transport modes;
- 23                   8. other similar informal transport modes;
- 24                   9. other similar informal transport modes;

25           b) Department - the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC);

26           c) Informal transport mode - any vehicle not governed by the laws regarding land  
27           transportation and traffic code in the country and is not issued permit to operate on  
28           public roads;

29           d) Kuliglig -  
30  
31

- 1                   1. a two-wheeled trailer pulled by a two-wheeled tractor;  
2  
3                   2. a multi-purpose diesel or gasoline engine commonly used in provinces and  
4                   other rural areas in the country; and  
5  
6                   3. an informal and improvised transport mode commonly used by farmers to  
7                   carry their product from the field to the market, and also sometimes loaded  
8                   with passengers;  
9  
10                  e) reflectors - any material or sticker that reflects and can be easily visible especially at  
11                  night.  
12

13                  **SEC. 4. *Mandatory Use of Reflectors on Carriages.*** - All vehicles/carriages covered  
14                  within this Act shall use such reflectors as herein mandated. Otherwise, they shall be  
15                  absolutely prohibited from traversing all main and secondary roads of the country.  
16

17                  Within ninety (90) days from the date of effectivity of this Act, the Department, in  
18                  coordination with the Land Transportation Office (LTO), local government units, and other  
19                  concerned agencies, shall issue the necessary guidelines and requirements for the mandatory  
20                  use of reflectors on carriages crossing the main and secondary roads nationwide.  
21

22                  **SEC. 5. *Information, Education and Communication Campaign.*** - The Department,  
23                  in cooperation with the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), is hereby mandated to conduct  
24                  a comprehensive and nationwide information, education and communication campaign in  
25                  order to inform the general public of the purpose and objectives envisioned under this Act.  
26

27                  **SEC. 6. *Penalties.*** - Violation of the provisions of this Act shall be subject to  
28                  impounding of the carriage/vehicle involved. If violation of this Act results to any accident,  
29                  the owner, possessor and/or operator thereof at the time of the accident shall be subject to a  
30                  fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) but not more than Two Hundred  
31                  Thousand Pesos (P200,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more  
32                  than four (4) years or both, at the discretion of the court.  
33

34                  **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act shall at any time be found  
35                  to be unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder thereof not affected by such declaration shall  
36                  remain in full force and effect.  
37

38                  **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, rules or regulations inconsistent with  
39                  the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.  
40

41                  **SEC. 9. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days  
42                  following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*