

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session



NOV - 7 P 4:19

SENATE
S.B. No. 1231

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Poe

AN ACT
INTEGRATING BASIC ROAD SAFETY AND COMPREHENSIVE DRIVER'S
EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM OF THE ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION
(K TO 12) PROGRAM

Road accidents are an emerging scourge to the country. Road accidents were the fourth leading cause of mortality in 2012¹ and the fifth highest cause of mortality from 2008 to 2013.² Road accidents accounted for 36,100 deaths for every 100,000 population from 2008 to 2013. In fact, health officials predict that road accidents could become the leading cause of deaths in the country by 2020- surpassing diseases of the heart, diseases of the vascular system, malignant neoplasms, and pneumonia.

Road accidents carry an unseen economic burden on society. A 2005 study notes that Php3.5 million is lost *per "fatal" road accident* in terms of lost labor output, medical costs, funeral services, human costs (in terms of pain, grief and suffering) and administration costs. In addition, at least Php734,867 is lost per "serious" road accident and Php71,483 per "minor" accident.

The statistics above are extremely frustrating. Road accidents are the most preventable of all the causes of mortality as such are man-made and are within our control and/or prevention. They can easily be addressed by enforcing the law and promoting greater awareness of road safety. This bill seeks to contribute to the latter endeavor.

¹ <http://news.abs-cbn.com/nation/metro-manila/11/06/08/road-accidents-now-4th-leading-cause-death-doh>
² http://www.doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/publications/2013PHScompressed_0.pdf


In sum, this bill seeks the mandatory integration of basic road safety and comprehensive driver's education in the enhanced basic education curriculum. If enacted, this measure will direct the Department of Education (DepEd), the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Department of Transportation, the Land Transportation Office (LTO), the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), and Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) to formulate and implement a basic road safety and comprehensive driver's education subject for students in basic and higher education.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is eagerly sought. This bill complements this representation's Senate Bill No. 162, otherwise known as the proposed proposed "*National Transportation Safety Board of 2016*". It also serves as the counterpart of House Bill No. 2228 filed by Cavite 2nd Legislative District Representative Strike B. Revilla.


GRACE POE

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(K TO 12) PROGRAM

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

ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

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4 **SECTION 1.** *Short Title.*- This Act shall be known as the "Road Safety and
5 *Comprehensive Driver's Education Act of 2016*".
6

7 **SEC. 2.** *Declaration of Policy.*- It is hereby declared the policy of the State to reduce
8 road accidents on all types of roads used for transportation by raising the awareness of road
9 users such as pedestrians, commuters and motorists on their rights and responsibilities and the
10 everyday risks that they face. As such, the State shall ensure that all road users are aware of
11 the principles of basic road safety and comprehensive driver's education.
12

13 **SEC. 3.** *Definition of Terms.*- For the purpose of this Act:
14

- 15 a) "*Basic road safety*"- refers to the rights and responsibilities of pedestrians and
16 commuters in their use of all types of roads used for transportation in order to
17 reduce the incidence of road accidents. It shall include, but not be limited to, road

1 awareness, road signages, responsible commuting, and the responsibilities of
2 pedestrians;

3
4 b) "*Comprehensive Driver's Education*"- refers to the rights and responsibilities of
5 drivers in their use of on all types of roads used for transportation in order to
6 reduce the incidence of road accidents. It shall include but not be limited to basic
7 road safety and its components, education on pertinent laws and rules and
8 regulations on driving, traffic signages, driving safety, and car passenger safety;

9
10 c) "*K to 12*"- refers to the enhanced basic education program created under Republic
11 Act No. 10533, otherwise known as the "*Enhanced Basic Education Act of*
12 *2013*".

13
14 **ARTICLE II**
15 **PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION**

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17 **SEC. 4. *Integration into Curriculum.***- Basic road safety and comprehensive driver's
18 education are hereby integrated into the curriculum of the K to 12 program. Basic road safety
19 shall be made part of the elementary curriculum. Comprehensive driver's education shall be
20 made part of the junior and senior high school and higher education curricula.

21
22 **SEC. 5. *Ad-Hoc Curriculum Committee.***- There shall be created an ad-hoc curriculum
23 committee composed of the Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd), the
24 Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Secretary of the
25 Department of Transportation (DOTR), the executive director of the Land Transportation
26 Office (LTO), the executive director of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory
27 Board (LTFRB), and the Chairman of the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA),
28 or their permanent representatives. The committee shall be administratively attached to the
29 DepEd and chaired by the DepEd Secretary or his permanent representative. The Committee
30 shall conduct public hearings and consult concerned stakeholders from the private and non-
31 governmental sectors.

32
33 The committee shall convene within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act
34 and shall have one (1) year to design the basic road safety and comprehensive driver's

1 education program and its components. Thereafter, the Committee shall be *functus officio* and
2 the member agencies shall ensure the full and continuing implementation of this Act.

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5 **ARTICLE III**
6 **FINAL PROVISIONS**
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8 **SEC. 6. Appropriations.**- The funds needed for the purpose of this Act shall be
9 indicated as a line item under the budget of the DepEd under the General Appropriations Act.
10 Appropriations for the implementation of this Act shall be sourced from the Special Road
11 Safety Fund as created under Republic Act No. 8794.

12
13 **SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.**- The DepEd, CHED, DOTR, LTO,
14 LTFRB, and MMDA shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the
15 implementation of this Act within thirty (30) days from its effectivity.

16
17 **SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.**- All laws, decrees, executive orders and rules and
18 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
19 modified accordingly.

20
21 **SEC. 9. Separability Clause.**- If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
22 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions
23 hereof.

24
25 **SEC. 10. Effectivity Clause.**- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
26 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,