

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

'17 MAY 16 P5:56

SENATE S.B. No. <u>1457</u>



Introduced by SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF DASHBOARD CAMERA OR DASHCAM SYSTEM IN PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES, GOVERNMENT-OWNED PATROL CARS AND CERTAIN TYPES OF VEHICLES PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure proposes the mandatory installation of dashboard camera in public utility vehicles, government-owned patrol cars and certain types of vehicles.

It shall play a major role in solving minor and major road accidents and crimes where in 2016 alone, the Metro Manila Accident Recording and Analysis System (MMARAS) recorded 109,322 counts of road accidents in the National Capital Region.

Today, most private vehicles are already equipped with dashboard cameras and other useful accessories like GPS device which have varying uses to vehicle owners and drivers. More often than not, the installed camera captures some of the most unusual road incidents which would otherwise go unnoticed and impossible to solve because of lack of record to prove its occurrence.

The installation of dashcam to public utility and selected government vehicles is seen to help curb incidents on roads and deter violation of traffic laws and regulations. It is also seen to improve and serve the interest of passengers who are subjected to the abuse and improper treatment of drivers. The latter shall be likewise protected from unscrupulous law enforcers who abuse their power and resort to extortion.

The measure will maximize the use of this technology and complement law

enforcement to fully protect the interests of the public. The use of recorded data shall also comply with laws on data protection to ensure that illegal surveillance and abuse will be prevented.

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

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO



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

1 SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Dash Cam Law".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the safety and protection of all its citizens. It shall ensure strict implementation of law and uphold proper administration of justice. To this end, the State shall pursue an avid and precautionary approach to secure the safety of the citizens.

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

(a) Dashboard camera or dash cam system refers to a camera that is mounted in or around the dashboard. The camera is attached by either use of suction cup mount or strapping on stock rear view mirror, powered either by batteries or hardwired into the vehicle's 12-volt system or through a cigarette lighter. The dash cam faithfully records all it sees as the car moves about its daily business. The dash cam automatically starts when the car does and records video into removable storage. More complex versions include global positioning systems that can pinpoint the location of what has been recorded, monitor speed, time and date or the recordings. Shock censors can even lag recordings upon

impact to ensure that data is not overwritten in the event of a 1 2 collision. 3 (b) Law Enforcement Agency refers to any agencies task to enforce the 4 law. This includes the Philippine National Police, the National 5 Bureau of Investigation and other similar government agencies. 6 7 SEC. 4. Coverage. This law shall cover the following vehicles: 8 9 (a) Public utility vehicles, including application based transportation 10 service; 11 (b) Government-owned patrol vehicles and similar vehicles used by 12 13 any law enforcement agency; (c) Transport service vehicles such as school and office service 14 vehicles and the like; and 15 (d)Other similar vehicles offering transport service to public 16 regardless if offered for a particular class or not. 17 18 19 SEC. 5. Mandatory Installation of Dashboard Camera or Dashcam System. The installation and use of dashboard camera or dashcam system shall be required 20 for all covered vehicles as enumerated under section 4 above. 21 22 23 The proper placement of a dashboard or dashcam system shall be ensured that it does not impair the driver's view of the road and outside the 24 range of airbag deployment and other safety facilities of the vehicles. 25 26 27 To ensure reliable visibility, the dashboard camera or dashcam system 28 may be no larger than a 5-inch square area on the driver's side of the windshield, or a 7-inch square area on the passenger's side windshield. 29 30 SEC. 6. On Privacy and Electronic Surveillance. The usage of the dashboard 31 camera or dashcam system as a recording device shall be in compliance with 32 the provisions of Republic Act 10173 or otherwise known as the Data Privacy 33 act of 2012, assuring that the data subject/s need to give consent before the 34 35 release of information unless there is a legal obligation that required for it to be kept or processed. 36 37 38 SEC. 7. Allowed Use and Disclosure. The use, viewing, copying, or disclosure of video feeds and recordings obtained pursuant to the surveillance performed 39 in accordance with this Act shall only be allowed in the following instances: 40 (a) Use, viewing, copying, or disclosure to a member or officer of a 41

law enforcement agency in connection with and limited to the

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- investigation or prosecution of an offense punishable by law or regulation;
- (b) Use, viewing, copying, or disclosure in connection with any pending criminal or civil proceeding; or
- (c) Use, viewing, copying, or disclosure that may be necessary for persons to determine whether or not an offense was committed against their person or property, to ascertain the identity of a criminal perpetrator, and to determine the manner by which the offense was perpetrated.

SEC. 8. *Penalties*. Any act or omission causing the violation of duties mandated under this Act shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) and/or suspension of franchise, if applicable, without prejudice to other civil or criminal liabilities that may arise therefrom.

SEC. 9. Implementing Agency. - The Department of Transportation and the Department of Interior and Local Government in consultation with local government units shall ensure the implementation and enforcement of this Act. After the lapse of three (3) months from the effectivity of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act, the concerned agencies shall conduct a regular ocular inspection to ensure that all covered vehicles have complied with the requirements of this Act.

SEC. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Interior and Local Government, in consultation with appropriate government agencies and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 11. Separability Clause. If, for any reason or reasons, any part of the provision of this Act shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,