CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 725

- BY REPRESENTATIVES DALOG, REVILLA, DALIPE, PIMENTEL, GONZALEZ, CASTELO, BIAZON, SAMBAR, SARMIENTO (C.) AND PRIMICIAS-AGABAS
- AN ACT PROHIBITING THE COLLECTION OF FEES FROM PASSENGERS FOR THE USE OF SANITARY FACILITIES LOCATED IN THE LAND TRANSPORTATION TERMINALS, STATIONS, STOPS AND REST AREAS
- Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. - Section 15, Article II of the 2 Philippine Constitution declares: "The State shall protect and promote the right 3 to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." The right 4 of every establishment to a fair return of investment carries with it a 5 corresponding social responsibility to provide adequate facilities for the 6 comfort of its clientele. Towards this end, the State shall require the owners, 7 operators and administrators of land transport terminals, stations, stops and 8 rest areas to provide and maintain suitable and clean sanitary facilities, free of 9 charge to passengers and travelers.

- SEC. 2. *Definition of Terms.* As used in this Act, the following terms
 shall mean:
- (a) Land transport terminal/station refers to a passenger station and a
 place for the final stopover or a permanent station, office and yard of public

utility vehicles, which may also serve as loading and unloading area for
 passengers;

3 (b) Land transport stop refers to a common place for the stopover of
4 public utility vehicles located along the highways or regular route for transport
5 in long distance travel;

6 (c) *Rest area* refers to a facility located at a strategic point along the 7 national highway or route of the traveling public which is provided with 8 parking space, restaurants or snack bars, other business shops, recreational 9 facilities, service stations, public restroom facilities or waiting sheds for 10 travelers or commuters; and

(d) Sanitary facilities refer to a set of facilities that include at least a
 combination of comfort room, hand-washing and drinking facilities.

13 SEC. 3. Prohibition Against Imposing and Collecting Fees. - It shall 14 be unlawful for the owner, operator or administrator of land transport terminals, stations, stops and rest areas to collect fees from passengers for the 15 use of regular sanitary facilities therein. For the purpose of this Act, the 16 17 concerned passenger must show the paid bus ticket for the day in order to avail of the free use of the sanitary facility: Provided, however, That the provisions 18 of this Act shall not apply to separate, well-appointed or deluxe sanitary 19 20 facilities that are operated solely for commercial purposes and for the 21 convenience of passengers who require and prefer such facilities within land 22 transport terminals, stations, stops or rest areas.

SEC. 4. *Penalty; Review of Penalty.* - Any owner, operator or
administrator of land transport terminals, stations, stops and rest areas who
violates the prohibition under Section 3 of this Act shall be liable for a fine in
the amount of five thousand pesos (P5,000.00).

The Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB)
shall, after five (5) years from the effectivity of this Act and once every five
(5) years thereafter, review the applicability and enforcement of the fine

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prescribed in the preceding paragraph and the necessary adjustments on the
 amount of the fine imposed subject to the approval of the Secretary of the
 Department of Transportation (DOTr).

4 SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The DOTr and the 5 LTFRB shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, jointly 6 promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations to carry out the 7 provisions of this Act.

8 SEC. 6. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders or
9 parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed,
10 amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
 its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers
 of general circulation.

Approved,

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