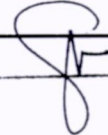


SENATE
S. No. 850

'19 AUG -1 P 2 :02

Introduced by **SENATOR LEILA M. DE LIMA**

RECEIVED BY: 

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF THE PHILIPPINE ROAD SAFETY
INSTITUTE UNDER THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSPORT STUDIES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Road safety is a problem in the country, especially in highly urbanized areas. It is considered a public health issue, having contributed significantly to the mortality rate. According to World Health Organization, pedestrians make up 19% of road deaths in the Philippines.¹ Road crash incidents are caused by driver error, defective vehicle condition and bad road condition. The Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC), now Department of Transportation (DOTr), reported that fatalities due to road crashes increase by almost 14.6% each year. With this data, it is estimated that by 2020, about 300,000 will die annually due to road mishap without any intervention.²

In 2003, the DOTC (now DOTr) developed the Philippine Road Safety Action Plan (PRSAP). The PRSAP aims to reduce road death rates. The institutional support for the PRSAP requires that the Department establish a clear delineation of responsibilities among all stakeholders, with adequate technical and financial support in managing road safety activities; and to harmonize these activities towards an integrated and well-coordinated national road safety action plan and its program implementation. DOTC coordinates road safety by virtue of Administrative Order No. 184 in 2007. Meanwhile, the DOTr has taken over for the 2017-2022 plan.

¹ World Health Organization. Global status report on road safety 2015. Retrieved from http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/road_safety_status/2015/en/. Accessed 22 April 2019

² DOTC Assistance Secretary Dante Lantin. Road Safety in the Philippines Country Report. Presented during an Expert Group Meeting in South Korea, May 8-10, 2013. Retrieved from <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/2.19.Philippines.pdf>. Accessed 22 April 2019

At present, some of the programs of DOTr include the Data for Road Incident Visualization, Evaluation, and Reporting (DRIVER) System, promoting the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System, BRT Accessibility Infrastructure and Urban Development in some urban centers, and Public Utility Vehicle (PUV) Modernization.

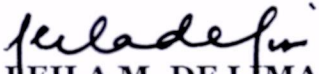
In other countries, there are established road safety institutes to promote road safety – by providing trainings, piloting scientific research and regularly conducting road safety assessments/data gathering, and policy research and development. The same is proposed in this legislation in order to address the road safety issues currently faced. While there are many programs implemented now that are able to contribute to transportation management and road management, and even road safety, what is proposed here is a center/institute that will look closely in the road safety aspect.

In the Philippines, the University of the Philippines National Center for Transportation Studies (UP NCTS) has the competency and knowledge in the field of transportation studies. Among their advocacies are sustainable transport, integrated transport system, road safety, and institutional development.

This bill creates the Philippine Road Safety Institute (PRSI) under the UP NCTS, an institute specializing on the transport sector which will have the proper mandate and funding to regularly provide technical advice on road safety in support of government programs and initiatives.

The PSRI mandate shall cover all aspects of road safety situation in the country, which shall include regularly collecting data pertinent to road safety, developing road safety policy framework, recommending legislation and promulgation of necessary rules and orders, and standards to be adopted by government agencies, among others, and develop road safety annual reports and related study.³

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


LEILA M. DE LIMA

³ Presentation: Philippine Road Safety Action Plan (PRSAP) 2011-2020. Retrieved from http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/plan/plan_philippines.pdf. Accessed 22 April 2019



SENATE

S. No. 850

'19 AUG -1 P2 :02

Introduced by **SENATOR LEILA M. DE LIMA**

RECEIVED BY:

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF THE PHILIPPINE ROAD SAFETY
INSTITUTE UNDER THE U.P. NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSPORT
STUDIES**

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 “*Philippine Road*
2 *Safety Institute Act of 2019.*”

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 improve road safety and to protect pedestrians and motorists in our streets, towards
5 the greater goal of national economic and social development. It shall also be the
6 policy of the State to establish information systems that will provide data to ensure
7 the proper research, planning and development of road safety programs.

8 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* –

9 (a) *Public roads* – refer to roads designed by the national government or local
10 government units as roads for public use such as, but not limited to,
11 national highways, provincial roads, city, municipal and barangay streets;
12 and

13 (b) *Road Safety* – refers to methods and measures for reducing the risk of a
14 person using the public roads or road networks being killed or seriously
15 injured.

16 Sec. 4. *The Philippine Road Safety Institute.* – There is hereby established a
17 body to be known as the Philippine Road Safety Institute (PRSI). The PRSI shall be
18 attached to the University of the Philippines National Center for Transport Studies

1 (UP NCTS). Its principal flag office shall be Metro Manila, but it may establish other
2 branches or offices elsewhere in the Philippines as may be necessary or proper for
3 the accomplishment of its purposes and objectives.

4 Sec. 5. *Powers and Functions.* – The PRSI shall have the following powers and
5 functions:

6 (a) To plan and carry out research and development activities as a center of
7 knowledge and services in the area of road and traffic safety (road safety
8 data collection);

9 (b) To provide the data base policy formulation that will improve the national
10 road safety status of the country;

11 (c) To organize and develop continuing training programs for transportation
12 planners, urban planners, traffic enforcers, emergency responders and
13 other professional workers and students, pertaining to road traffic safety;

14 (d) To formulate policies that would create public awareness through
15 educational activities, conventions, seminars, conferences, and the like by
16 focusing on the promotion of road safety;

17 (e) To receive and acquire from any person and/or government and private
18 entities, whether foreign or domestic, grants, donations and contributions
19 consisting of such properties, real or personal, including funds and
20 valuable effects or things, as may be useful, necessary or proper to carry
21 out its purposes and objectives and administer the same in accordance
22 with the terms of such grants, donations and contributions, consistent with
23 its purposes and objectives; and

24 (f) To exercise such other powers and functions, and perform other acts as
25 may be necessary, proper or incidental to the attainment of its purposes
26 and objectives.

27 Sec. 6. *Board of Trustees.* – The governance and policy direction of the PRSI
28 shall be vested in, and its powers exercised by, a Board of Trustees, which shall be
29 composed of eleven members, as follows:

30 (a) The Secretary of DOTr, as Chairman;

31 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways;

32 (c) The Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government;

- 1 (d) The Secretary of the Department of Information and Communications
2 Technology;
- 3 (e) The Chief of the Philippine National Police Highway Patrol Group;
- 4 (f) The Chair of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority;
- 5 (g) The Chair of the Land Transportation Office;
- 6 (h) The Executive Director of UP NCTS;
- 7 (i) The Secretary-General or authorized representative of the Philippine
8 Global Road Safety Partnership; and
- 9 (j) A representative from the private sector.

10 A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the
11 transaction of the business of the Board.

12 *Sec. 7. Functions and Responsibilities of the Board.* – The Board shall have
13 the following functions:

- 14 (a) To formulate and adopt policies and measures for the management and
15 operation of the Institute;
- 16 (b) To approve the staffing pattern of the PRSI;
- 17 (c) To promulgate the rules and regulations for the discharge of its powers and
18 functions and the internal operations of the PRSI; *Provided*, That the
19 Chairman of the Board of Trustees shall exercise the power to appoint,
20 promote, discipline or remove the personnel of the PRSI;
- 21 (d) To manage the financial affairs of the PRSI and approve an annual budget
22 of receipts and expenditures of the PRSI according to its requirements; and
- 23 (e) To monitor and review periodically the programs and projects of the PRSI.

24 *Sec. 8. President of the Institute.* – The Director of the UP NCTS shall
25 concurrently be the President of the PRSI. The President shall be the chief executive
26 officer of the Institute and shall receive such salary and remuneration as may be
27 determined by the Board. She/he shall have the following powers and duties:

- 28 (a) To prepare, for the approval of the Board, the staffing pattern of the PRSI
29 which shall include the determination of the qualifications, and fixing the
30 number and compensation of such officials and personnel as may be
31 necessary for the proper discharge of the functions of the PRSI;

- 1 (b) To have control and supervision over the personnel, staff, operations and
2 internal administration of the PRSI in accordance with existing laws and
3 the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Trustees;
- 4 (c) To recommend to the Board of Trustees such policies and measures which
5 she/he deems necessary for the effective exercise and discharge of the
6 powers and responsibilities of the PRSI; and
- 7 (d) To submit an annual report to the Board of Trustees on the operations, the
8 status of the programs funded by, and the financial condition of, the PRSI,
9 including a recommendation for its budget for the ensuing year.

10 *Sec. 9. Fees of Research Fellows and Associates.* – The PRSI is hereby
11 authorized to engage researchers and other professional staff from other government
12 offices and agencies to conduct specialized studies and researches for the PRSI.
13 Those so engaged by the PRSI shall be issued appointments as Research Fellows or
14 Research Associates and shall be paid, as they are hereby authorized to be paid, such
15 fees as determined by the Board in addition to whatever compensation or
16 emoluments they are receiving in their respective mother offices of agencies.

17 *Sec. 10. Government Coordination.* – The PRSI shall assist, cooperate and
18 coordinate with other government agencies, for the implementation of the purposes
19 and objectives of this Act.

20 *Sec. 11. Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of
21 this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its
22 enactment in to law and thereafter.

23 *Sec. 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within thirty (30) days from
24 the completion of their appointments, the Board shall convene and, in collaboration
25 with the UP NCTS, formulate the rules and regulations necessary for the
26 implementation of this Act. Said rules and regulations shall be issued within one
27 hundred eighty (180) days from the date of the Board's initial meeting and shall take
28 effect upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

29 *Sec. 13. Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees,
30 presidential proclamations, letters of instruction, rules and regulations or parts
31 thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
32 modified accordingly.

1 Sec. 14. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared
2 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof not affected thereby
3 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

4 Sec. 15. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
5 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in
6 the Philippines.

Approved,