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SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. 325

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Introduced by Senator Ronald "Bato" Dela Rosa

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE SERIES OF VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS INVOLVING DRIVERS WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR DRUG USE, AND WHOSE RECKLESS, IRRESPONSIBLE AND NEGLIGENT DRIVING RESULTED TO THE DEATH OF, OR HAVE INFLICTED CRITICAL INJURIES TO A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS, AND HAVE CAUSED DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDING FURTHER REMEDIAL MEASURES TO ENSURE ROAD SAFETY, AND END THE PROLIFERATION OF DRUG USE IN THE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY IN THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SECTOR**

WHEREAS, road safety is a primordial concern in any civilized and orderly society that necessitates clear-cut policies and guidelines that should be strictly and cautiously implemented in order to save lives and protect property;

WHEREAS, through the years, road crash and disasters have claimed so many lives, and have traumatized injured and debilitated victims, leaving their families not only shocked and devastated, but also financially drained and exhausted due to costly medical expenses;

WHEREAS, on 12 February 2020, news report said that a Grade 8 student of Gen. Pio del Pilar National High School, by the name of Jules Villapando, died after he and seven other schoolmates were hit by a speeding jeepney while crossing a

pedestrian lane at the corner of J.P. Rizal Avenue and Mabini Street in Barangay Poblacion, Makati City<sup>1</sup>;

WHEREAS, according to the news reports, closed-circuit TV camera footages showed that a speeding passenger jeepney, allegedly driven by a certain Crisalde Tamparong, overtook a car, and run against the traffic, and hit and killed Villapando, and seriously injuring his schoolmates;

WHEREAS, the impact was so strong that some of the students who were hit by the jeepney were thrown a few meters. Others ended up beneath the vehicle.<sup>2</sup>

WHEREAS, according to Makati Police Chief PCol. Rogelio Simon, charges of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide and multiple physical injuries<sup>3</sup> will be filed against the Driver Tamparong who, when arrested, allegedly had no driver's license, and merely presented a violation ticket for a traffic violation he committed last year;

WHEREAS, to make matters worse, reports say that results of driver Tamparong's drug test allegedly showed that he tested positive for drug use<sup>4</sup>, and which, during confrontation, he allegedly admitted to with the Makati Police;

WHEREAS, despite the enactment of Republic Act 10586 or the Anti-Drunk and Drugged Act of 2013, the increasing number of road accidents have been faulted to drivers under the influence of dangerous drugs;

WHEREAS, it is alarming that on an almost daily basis, there are reports of vehicular mishaps that claim lives and inflict critical injuries to bystanders and

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<sup>1</sup>Dexter Cabalza. "Speeding jeepney kills student, hurts 7 in Makati". Philippine Daily Inquirer (PDI), A17, February 14, 2020.

<sup>2</sup>"Student dies, 6 others injured in Makati accident, GMA News Online, February 12, 2020, 11:51PM, retrieved on February 14, 2020.

<sup>3</sup>Dexter Cabalza. "Speeding jeepney kills student, hurts 7 in Makati".

<sup>4</sup>"Classmates mourn high school student killed by wayward jeep in Makati", GMA News Online, February 15, 2020, retrieved from [www.msn.com](http://www.msn.com) on February 15, 2020.

passengers, damaging several other vehicles and property along the site of the accidents;

WHEREAS, in a report<sup>5</sup> "the Philippine National Police-Highway Patrol Group said 9,663 road crashes were recorded, lower than the 11,179 in 2018. Of the total, 8,809 crash incidents were blamed on the "human factor" such as bad overtaking, bad turning, speeding, drunk driving, using cellular phones and overloading, among others."

WHEREAS, it is extremely important to review and evaluate the current set of laws and rules and regulations governing road safety vis-à-vis the prevention of illegal drugs in public transport, in order to shield the public from the snares of reckless, negligent, and errant driving;

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, into the series of vehicular accidents involving drivers who tested positive for drug use, and whose reckless, irresponsible and negligent driving resulted to the deaths of, or have inflicted critical injuries to a number of individuals, and have caused damage to property, for the purpose of recommending further remedial measures to ensure road safety, and end the proliferation of drug use in the country, particularly in the public transport sector.

Adopted,

  
**RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA**

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<sup>5</sup> Darwin Pesco . "Human factor top cause of road crashes in 2019". The Manila Times, October 31, 2019, retrieved from <https://www.manilatimes.net>news> on February 14, 2020.