### NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC ) OF THE PHILIPPINES )

First Regular Session



23 FEB 14 P6:37

SENATE
S.B. No. <u>1884</u>\_

RECEIVED BY.

Introduced by Senator Raffy T. Tulfo

### AN ACT MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF AUDIBLE TRAFFIC SIGNS WITH PUSH BUTTONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, THE ELDERLY AND PREGNANT WOMEN

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

An audible traffic signal is a device that emits a sound to indicate when it is safe for a pedestrian to cross the street. It is typically used in combination with visual signals such as a red hand or flashing "don't walk" signal. The proposed bill seeks to mandate the installation of audible traffic signs to provide an additional layer of protection for visually impaired individuals and to increase their independence when navigating busy intersections. The bill also seeks to improve accessibility and help ensure that everyone, regardless of their ability, can safely cross the street. The Audible Traffic Signal Bill is a significant step towards creating a more inclusive and accessible transportation system.

The passage of this measure is thus earnestly sought.

RAFFY T. TULFO

Senator

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## AN ACT MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF AUDIBLE TRAFFIC SIGNS WITH PUSH BUTTONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILIES, THE ELDERLY AND PREGNANT WOMEN

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

- **SECTION.1.** Short Title This act shall be known as " Accessible Pedestrian Signals
- 2 Act"

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4 **SEC. 2.** Declaration of Policy –

- 5 It is the policy of the State to adopt policies that will ensure self-reliance, rehabilitation
- and self-development of disabled persons. Therefore, the State hereby affirms to
- 7 uphold the rights of pregnant women, the elderly and Persons With Disabilities (PWD)
- 8 to live a normal life through implementation of policies that will protect their wellbeing.
- 10 **SEC. 3**. Objectives:
  - a) To further improve traffic flow and congestion;
- b) To ensure the safety of motorists and the public in general;
- c) To provide safety of pedestrians with disability, elderly and pregnant women.

1 **SEC.4.** Audible Traffic Signal—

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- 3 For pedestrians who are blind or visually challenged, an Audible Traffic Signal offers
- 4 information regarding the status and relative location of pedestrian light signals. It
- 5 shall offer information regarding the status and relative location of pedestrian light
- 6 signals. The control section directs a person crossing by concurrently generating
- 7 sounds as in "back and forth call operation" from the two speakers placed at the two
- 8 ends of the crosswalk during the time when crossing is allowed.

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- 10 **SEC. 5.**Push Button For PWDs, The Elderly And Pregnant Women –
- 11 Upon activation of the Push Button, the countdown timer in the traffic light shall start
- 12 giving pregnant women, the elderly and persons with disabilities sufficient time to
- cross the pedestrian lane.

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- To determine how much time is necessary to allow persons with disabilities, the
- elderly, and pregnant women to cross intersections safely, the Land Transportation
- Office or the appropriate government agency shall undertake a time and motion study.

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- 19 **SEC. 6.**Implementation There shall be an Audible Traffic Signal with Push Button for
- 20 PWDs, the elderly and pregnant women in all pedestrian crossings with traffic signals
- 21 that regulate vehicular traffic.

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- 23 **SEC. 7.** Imposition of Fines and Penalties.- The Push Button shall solely be used by
- the elderly, pregnant women and persons with disabilities. Any person found guilty of
- 25 tampering or mishandling of the Audible Traffic Signal in violation of this Act shall
- suffer the following penalties:
- a.) First Offense Fine of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00)
- 28 b.) Second Offense Fine of Three Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P3,000.00)
- 29 c.) Third Offense Fine of Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00) and/or one (1)
- 30 day to thirty (30) days of imprisonment.

- 1 SEC. 8.Implementing Rules and Regulations The Land Transportation Office (LTO),
- 2 in consultation with concerned stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and
- 3 regulations for the effective implementation of this act.

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5 **SEC. 9.** Appropriation - Appropriation. - The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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- 8 **SEC. 10.** Effectivity This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
- 9 in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,