NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE	
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	
Second Regular Session	Š

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SENATE

P. S. RES. No. __763

Introduced by Senators PIA S. CAYETANO and JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" ZUBIRI

RESOLUTION

URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE VIRAL ROAD RAGE INCIDENT OF A RETIRED POLICE OFFICER AGAINST A CYCLIST IN QUEZON CITY

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Constitution states that: "[t]he maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 21 of the 1987 Constitution states that: "[t]he preservation of peace and order within the regions shall be the responsibility of the local police agencies which shall be organized, maintained, supervised, and utilized in accordance with applicable laws. The defense and security of the regions shall be the responsibility of the National Government;"

WHEREAS, a video was posted online showing Wilfredo "Willy" Gonzales, a retired policeman, coming out of his red sedan to confront an unnamed cyclist;¹

WHEREAS, Gonzales slapped the helmet of the cyclist and was seen pulling out and racking the slide of his gun during their altercation;²

¹ Boiser, A. & Mangosing, F. (2023, August 29). Ex-cop in road rage clip stripped of gun license. *Philippine Daily Inquirer.*

https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1823168/ex-cop-in-road-rage-clip-stripped-of-gun-license

² Boiser, A. & Mangosing, F. (2023, August 29). Ex-cop in road rage clip stripped of gun license. *Philippine Daily Inquirer*.

https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1823168/ex-cop-in-road-rage-clip-stripped-of-gun-license

WHEREAS, the cyclist was traversing Quezon Avenue near Welcome Rotonda in Quezon City when Gonzales's car suddenly stopped in the bike lane, which resulted in the cyclist hitting the car;³

WHEREAS, this road rage incident happened on 8 August 2023, but the video only surfaced on 27 August 2023;⁴

WHEREAS, during a presscon, Gonzales mentioned that they allegedly went to the Quezon City police station on the same day and settled the matter;⁵

WHEREAS, however, the cyclist was reportedly coerced to sign the settlement agreement with Gonzales and was even obliged to pay Php 500 to cover the alleged cost of damage to the red sedan;⁶

WHEREAS, it was later reported that Gonzales was dismissed from service in 2017 due to grave misconduct;⁷

WHEREAS, Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte ordered a thorough investigation on the incident and berated the alleged abusive motorist, and she also appealed to the cyclist, who is fearing for his life, to come forward with the promise of protection and legal assistance;⁸

³ Cruz, J. P. (2023, August 28). Belmonte to cyclist in road rage video: Come forward, we'll protect you. *Rappler.*

https://www.rappler.com/nation/metro-manila/quezon-city-mayor-joy-belmonte-offers-protection-cyclist-road-rage-video/

⁴ Baustista, J. (2023, August 28). LTO vows action on viral road rage incident. *Philippine Daily Inquirer* https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1822672/lto-vows-action-on-viral-road-rage-incident

⁵ Casilao, J. L. (2023, August 28). Belmonte orders probe vs. QCPD over viral cyclist case. *GMA News*. https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/880296/belmonte-orders-probe-vs-qcpd-over-viral-cyclist-case/story/

⁶ Boiser, A. & Mangosing, F. (2023, August 29). Ex-cop in road rage clip stripped of gun license. *Philippine Daily Inquirer.*

https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1823168/ex-cop-in-road-rage-clip-stripped-of-gun-license

⁷ ABS-CBN News. (2023, August 28). Gun-toting ex-cop dismissed from service for similar offense: PNP. *ABS-CBN News.*

https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/28/23/gun-toting-ex-cop-dismissed-for-similar-offense-pnp ⁸ Cruz, J. P. (2023, August 28). Belmonte to cyclist in road rage video: Come forward, we'll protect you. *Rappler.*

WHEREAS, this is a serious case involving public order and safety, which cannot simply be settled amicably and swept under the rug;

WHEREAS, the issue also highlights the safety of cyclists on the road, and the issue of road sharing, a concept that remains ignored by and alien to many Filipino motorists, which means that one must share in the responsibility of ensuring everyone's safety, as everyone has an equal right to access public roads;

WHEREAS, aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), specifically SDG 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities that aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, it is vital that we protect our cyclists traversing in traffic through the provision of physical barriers to ensure their safety, which is encapsulated in Senate Bill No. 1290, entitled the Walkable and Bikeable Communities Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the viral road rage incident of a retired police officer against a cyclist in Quezon City.

Adopted,

PLA S. CAYPTANO

JUAN-MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

https://www.rappler.com/nation/metro-manila/quezon-city-mayor-joy-belmonte-offers-protection-cyclist-road-rage-video/