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SENATEP. S. Res. No. 939

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Introduced by: Senator Raffy T. Tulfo

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION TO ASSESS THE VIABILITY OF IMPOSING A MANDATORY COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIREMENT FOR GOVERNMENT VEHICLES

WHEREAS, Section 5 of Republic Act No. 4136, as amended, or the Land Transportation and Traffic Code requires that all motor vehicles being used or operated on or upon any public highway of the Philippines shall be properly registered including motor vehicles owned by the government of the Philippines or any of its political subdivisions;

WHEREAS, Section 387 of Republic Act No. 10607 or The Insurance Code states that, "it shall be unlawful for any land transportation operator or owner of a motor vehicle to operate the same in the public highways unless there is in force in relation thereto a policy of insurance or guaranty in cash or surety bond";

WHEREAS, Section 390 of The Insurance Code further requires the land transportation operator to secure a Compulsory Third Party Liability (CTPL) insurance as a mandatory requirement for any motor vehicle before applying for the registration or renewal of registration of any motor vehicle to the Land Transportation Office (LTO);

WHEREAS, Section 5 of Republic Act No. 656, as amended, or the Property Insurance Law mandates that the properties of the government shall be insured for any damage to, or loss of, its properties due to fire, earthquake, storm, or other casualty, but

not for damages caused against other properties damaged in an accident involving government vehicles;

WHEREAS, there has been an increasing number of complaints over road accidents involving government vehicles which are later found to be uninsured, despite legal mandates requiring such insurance coverage;

WHEREAS, a complainant went to the public service program "Raffy Tulfo in Action" and reported that on August 25, 2023, a driver of an uninsured barangay multicab recklessly drove and ran through multiple private vehicles in Brgy. Uno, Bais City, Negros Occidental including two (2) tricycles, two (2) minivans, two (2) motorcycles, and one (1) van;

WHEREAS, a victim in another accident which occurred on December 8, 2022 in Sorsogon City similarly sought the assistance of the "Raffy Tulfo in Action" public service program where a truck used for garbage collection collided with a jeep resulting to physical injuries of nine (9) individuals and the driver of the said truck was found not to be in possession of a driver's license which voided the insurance claim in favor of the injured persons;

WHEREAS, the non-compliance of government agencies, who must serve as role models for the private sector, with the mandatory insurance requirement for their vehicles is prevalent;

WHEREAS, the abovementioned circumstances result to loss of lives and thereby pose insurmountable financial burdens on the victims of accidents and their family and raises questions on government accountability;

WHEREAS, immediate action is necessary to enforce compliance with existing laws mandating insurance coverage for government vehicles and strict adherence to the same laws to ensure the protection of public interest;

WHEREAS, there is a need to conduct a review of all existing laws relating to insuring and registering government vehicles and navigate the insurance procurement process, ensuring that insurance coverage is in accordance with legal requirements;

WHEREAS, there is a need to hold government agencies liable for utilizing uninsured and unregistered vehicles, by imposing necessary disciplinary actions that shall

be taken against those responsible for non-compliance with the relevant laws and regulations;

WHEREAS, it is hereby sought that periodic audits and reporting on the insurance status of government vehicles shall be conducted by the proper authorities tasked to promote transparency and accountability;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, that the Senate Committee on Public Services be directed to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the registration and the procurement of insurance coverage of all government vehicles with the end in view in imposing legal consequences, including fines and penalties on government agencies and their personnel who fail to comply with the mandatory insurance requirements for their vehicles, and assess the viability of imposing a mandatory comprehensive insurance on government vehicles.

RAFFY_T. TULFO

Approved,