


14th CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

7 JUN 30 P4:57

SENATE BILL No. 273RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

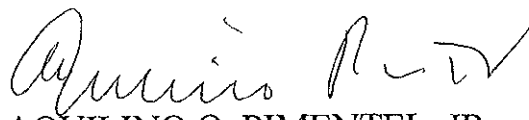
During these times of rising oil prices and worsening traffic problems, many Filipinos have resorted to motorcycles as their primary means of transport. These vehicles prove to be easy to maneuver during heavy traffic and are fuel-efficient.

Despite these benefits, motorcycles are considered high-risk vehicles, both with respect to drivers thereof and other motorists. According to the Traffic Management Group (TMG), of the total of 14202 traffic accidents in 2004, 3010 or 21% of which involved motorcycles. These numbers steadily rose to 24% in 2005, or 2798 out of 11425 accidents in 2005. In the first two months of 2006 alone, the TMG recorded a total of 485 motorcycle accidents out of the total 1364 accidents, which accounts for 35% of total traffic accidents.

Further, the records of the Land Transportation office show that in January and February of 2006, a total of 53,458 new motorcycles were registered with the Land Transportation Office, which comprises almost fifty percent (50%) of the 105,591 motorcycles previously registered with the said office, as of December 2005.

To address the growing number of motorcycles traversing major roads and highways and to ensure the protection of all motorists, this bill proposes the provision of motorcycle lanes in all major roads and highways throughout the country. The Department of Public Works and Highways shall be the lead agency tasked to implement the provisions of this Act.

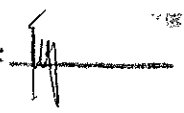
Immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL, JR.

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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR MOTORCYCLE LANES ON ALL MAIN ROADS
AND HIGHWAYS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, PROVIDING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. The Department of Public Works and Highways shall provide for motorcycle lanes on all main roads and highways throughout the country.

SEC. 2. The District Engineers shall place marks on existing main roads and highways to indicate lanes for motorcycles. Any new road or highway constructed after the effectivity of this Act shall not be approved and constructed without the required motorcycle lanes.

SEC. 3. **Penalties.** – Any public works official who shall violate the provisions of this Act shall be punished by a fine of not less than Thirty Thousand Pesos (P30,000.00) nor more than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) or suspension, if found guilty in an appropriate administrative investigation.

SEC. 4. **Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the marking of existing main roads and highways shall be charged against the appropriations of the Department of Public Works and Highways under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the maintenance of the lanes shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. **Separability Clause.** – Any part or provision of this Act shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. **Repealing Clause.** – All laws, rules, regulations, orders, memoranda or circulars inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.