

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

7 JUL -4 P4:33

SENATE  
S.B. No. 1124

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, in its declaration of State Policies, provides:

Section 5. The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.

Pursuant to this policy, Executive Order No. 125-A was promulgated in 1987 reorganizing the then Ministry (now Department) of Transportation and Communications (DOTC). Under Section 5(q) as amended, the DOTC was charged with the function of establishing and prescribing rules and procedures for the accreditation of driving schools.

Driving schools and driving instructors must be accredited by LTO. In 1980, the then Ministry of Transportation and Communications issued an order covering the rules and regulations governing the supervision and control of driving schools. Standard requirements are set forth for driving sites, school buildings, classrooms, library facilities, motor vehicles, instructors, and courses of instruction. At present, there are about 170 LTO-accredited driving schools operating all over the country.

The regulation of driving schools has greatly improved drivers' skills and education. However, there is a need to expand this regulation to cover driver education of professional drivers, specifically, truck drivers in the country. Considering the size and weight of the vehicles being operated by professional drivers, improper and inadequate driver education increases the risk to life and property of the driving public. A special professional driver education is necessary to ensure road safety of all motorists in the country.

This bill seeks to address this need by requiring establishments employing professional drivers, especially truck drivers, to secure for their drivers a special driver's education program before they are allowed to operate in the field.<sup>1</sup>

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
*Ed.*

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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the Thirteenth Congress, Third Regular Session.

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT  
2 REQUIRING SPECIAL DRIVER'S EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL AND TRUCK  
3 DRIVERS

4 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*  
5 *assembled:*  
6

7 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the Professional Driver's  
8 Education Act of 2007.

9 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to maintain peace and  
10 order, protect life, liberty, and property, and promote the general welfare for the enjoyment by all  
11 the people of the blessings of democracy.

12 SECTION 3. *Special Driver Education Requirement.* – All establishments employing  
13 professional drivers shall secure for their drivers, before deployment in the field, a special  
14 professional driver's education program to be conducted by an accredited driving school. Such  
15 program shall be designed and geared specifically towards safety education and training for truck  
16 drivers.

17 SECTION 4. *Establishment of Rules and Regulations.* – The Land Transportation Office  
18 (LTO) shall establish the appropriate rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

19 SECTION 5. *Revocation or suspension of license or certificate.* – The LTO may suspend  
20 or revoke any license or certificate issued for the operation of commercial trucks and vehicles for  
21 violation of any provision of this Act.

1           SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – There shall be authorized to be appropriated such  
2 amounts as necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, to be included in the annual budget  
3 of the Department of Transportation and Communications in the General Appropriations Act.

4           SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision, or part hereof, is declared invalid or  
5 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law not otherwise affected shall remain valid and  
6 subsisting.

7           SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
8 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent  
9 with, the provisions of this Act, are hereby modified, repealed, or amended accordingly.

10           SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
11 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,