

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

6 AUG -7 P4:01

SENATE  
S.B. No. 2434

RECEIVED BY: Jay

---

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

---

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Riding anything with wheels is a popular recreation activity for persons of all ages. Filipinos, both adults and children, love riding bikes, non-powered scooters, roller skates and skate boards for recreation and as a means of transportation. However, riding these wheeled contraptions is very dangerous. People are exposed to various injuries, especially head traumas. Although there is no data on the frequency of helmet use among Filipinos, it is common knowledge that majority of Filipinos do not wear helmets or any protective gear when they ride bikes, scooters, roller skates or roller blades and skate boards.

We can not underestimate the advantages of wearing a helmet to prevent head injury. Helmets work by dissipating the sharp energy of a blow over a large surface area. Studies show that a properly worn bicycle helmet can effectively reduce the occurrence of brain injury by 63-88%.

In the Philippines, helmet use by motorcycles is already mandatory. While I have already filed a bill to promote bicycle helmet use, there is still no legislation promoting the use of helmets when skateboards, scooters, roller skates or roller blades and skate boards are used. To remedy the vacuum in the law, this bill seeks to promote mandatory use of helmets for people who use not only bicycles, but also non-motorized scooters, skateboards and roller skates or roller blades.

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

6 AUG -7 P4:01

SENATE  
S.B. No. 2434

RECEIVED BY: Joy

---

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

---

AN ACT  
TO PROMOTE MANDATORY USE OF HELMETS WHEN RIDING BICYCLES,  
NON-MOTORIZED SCOOTERS, ROLLER SKATES OR ROLLER BLADES AND  
SKATEBOARDS

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Safe Riders Act of 2006.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to  
promote the general welfare by providing means to ensure people’s safety when they use  
wheeled contraptions.

SECTION 3. *Application.* – This Act will apply –

(1) at all times while a bicycle, non-motorized scooter, roller skates or roller blades and  
skateboard is being operated on any street, road, parks, or other property open to the public or  
used by the public for pedestrian or vehicular traffic and places of recreation; and

(2) to a person who is riding on a bicycle, non-motorized scooter, roller skates or roller  
blades and skateboard including a person who is a passenger on a bicycle or a non-motorized  
scooter:

(a) in a restraining seat attached to the bicycle;

or

(b) in a trailer or side car being towed by the bicycle. However, this Act shall not apply to passengers of commercial pedicabs unless the local government units involve provides otherwise.

SECTION 4. *Restrictions.* – A person to whom this Act applies may not operate or ride as a passenger on a bicycle, non-motorized scooter, roller skates or roller blades and skateboard unless the person is wearing a helmet that is properly worn and meets or exceeds the standards for protective headgear for use in bicycles, non-motorized scooter, roller skates or roller blades and skateboard, set by the appropriate government agency or by any applicable international standards.

SECTION 5. *Penalties.* – This Act shall be enforced by the issuance of a warning that informs the offender of the requirements of this Act and provides educational materials about bicycle helmet use. However, repeat offenders or parents or guardians of minor repeat offenders, will be fined ₱500.00 for each repetition of the offense.

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

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

SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,