


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
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First Regular Session)

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

PS RES. NO. 369

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR COMPAÑERA PIA S. CAYETANO

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION (DOTC) TO EXPEDITE THE CLASSIFICATION AND CONSEQUENT REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTRIC JEEPNEYS AS PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES TO HELP MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY-BASED TECHNOLOGIES

WHEREAS, Article II Section 16 of the Philippine Constitution declares that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

WHEREAS, in 4 July 2007 the first six (6) electric jeepneys (e-jeeps) in the Philippines, the first public transport of its kind in Southeast Asia, were launched in the cities of Makati and Bacolod;

WHEREAS, e-jeeps were subsequently introduced in the cities of Baguio and Puerto Princesa in January 2008 and that other local government units expressed their desire to run these no-fume low-cost e-jeeps;

WHEREAS, the e-jeeps are part of the Climate Friendly Cities project, with the goal of introducing an alternative to the local, diesel-based, public transport system that will not only reduce air pollution, carbon emissions and solid waste stream but will also provide increased income to the drivers of these vehicles;

WHEREAS, this initiative, led by the Green Renewable Independent Power Producer (GRIPP), a partnership spearheaded by Greenpeace International and Solar Electric Company (Solarco), is very important and urgent in light of the recent reports of the manmade causes and dangerous effects of global warming and climate change;

WHEREAS, there is a need to shift our energy consumption to a more economic and viable source due to the unprecedented increase in the world prices of petroleum products;

WHEREAS, the Philippine government promotes the use of renewable and alternative sources of energy to decrease, if not eliminate, the perilous effects of using non-renewable energy technologies;

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy (DOE) declares that the government's energy independence and savings program include increasing indigenous oil and gas reserves, developing renewable energy, increasing the use of alternative fuels, forging strategic alliances with other countries and implementing strong efficiency and conservation programs;

WHEREAS, the use of e-jeeps will bring numerous benefits for the people and the country including an increase in the income of jeepney drivers and a cleaner environment;

WHEREAS, according to the Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturers Association of the Phils. Inc., the electric jeepney can be charged overnight for eight to 10 hours at a cost of approximately P200, saving about half of the operating cost of a diesel or gasoline powered jeepney;

WHEREAS, electric-powered jeepneys are meant to steer clear of the use of fossil fuels, reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants, such as carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide produced by the operation of diesel-engine jeepneys, use energy from biodegradable waste, and improve our local air, health and safety;

WHEREAS, the project envisions to unveil 50 electric jeepneys, each with a capacity of twelve passengers and will construct a depot that will serve as the maintenance center and charging station equipped with generator which uses energy from biodegradable waste from the city's wet markets, food establishments, and households;

WHEREAS, it is almost a year since the launch and the filing of the application for the classification and subsequent registration of e-jeeps with the DOTC but the Department has not come up with a system for its classification and registration;

WHEREAS, the undue and unexplained delay of its classification and registration impedes and delays the immediate benefits and advantages of using non-traditional sources of energy;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the policy of the state and our ecological obligation, the use of electric-powered jeepneys will address our various urban environmental problems while providing the needs of our people;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC) to expedite the classification and consequent registration of the electric jeepneys as public utility vehicles to help mitigate the effects of climate change and promote sustainable transport and use of renewable energy-based technologies.

Adopted,


PIA S. CAYETANO
Senator