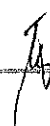


**FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**

APR 30 2019

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S NO. 2234

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

EXPLANATORY NOTE

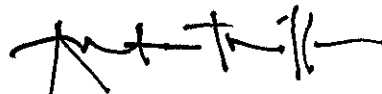
There is a need to create a central agency that will consolidate the functions currently being undertaken by the Land Transportation Office, the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board, the DOTC's Office of Transport Cooperatives, the PNP's Traffic Management Group and the MMDA's Traffic Enforcement Group. This is to avoid the confusion as to which agency is tasked to maintain land transportation law and order on the streets of the Philippines, as well as to provide direction and administration to the nation's land transportation industry.

As envisioned by the bill, a National Land Transportation Authority shall absorb the functions of a merged LTO and LTFRB as the primary policy, planning, programming, coordinating, implementing, regulating and administrative entity of the government in the promotion, development and regulation of a dependable network of land transportation systems.

In so doing, a more efficient agency capable of addressing the various needs of the land transportation industry is created, which through regulations, will ensure public safety and welfare.

To allow the agency to do its broad function, the bill authorizes the NLTA to use 50% of the income that it collects from its operation. This will enable the agency to modernize in order to be better equipped to do the tasks at hand.

As we move towards progress, we need a land transportation agency that is up to the challenge. We can only attain this if this bill is passed into law.

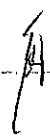


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator

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

8 APR 30 P5 19

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S NO. 2234

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL LAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

ARTICLE I

TITLE, POLICIES, OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE ACT

1 **SECTION 1. *Title.*** - This act shall be known as the "*National Land*
2 *Transportation Authority (NLTA) Act of 2008*".

3
4 **SEC. 2. *Policy and Objectives.*** The state shall pursue the development,
5 maintenance and expansion of a viable, efficient, safe and dependable land transportation
6 system as an effective instrument for national development and economic progress,
7 specifically through the establishment of a motor vehicle statistical office as the principal
8 source of information, the conversion from the adversarial quasi judicial procedures in
9 the grant of franchises to operate public utility motor vehicles into administrative
10 proceedings using socioeconomic indicators in the grant of permits, and the establishment
11 of an office charged with long term forward planning in order to improve the
12 administration of the land transportation industry. The Authority shall absorb the
13 functions of the merged LTO and LTFRB as the primary policy, planning, programming,
14 coordinating, implementing, regulating and administrative entity of the government in the

1 promotion, development and regulation of a dependable network of land transportation
2 systems.

3

4 **SECTION 3. *Scope of the Act.*** The provisions of the Act shall control, as far as
5 they apply, to the registration and operation of motor vehicles; licensing of drivers and
6 conductors; enforcement of traffic rules, laws and regulations; adjudication of traffic and
7 non-traffic violations; franchising and operation of public utility motor vehicles;
8 regulation of activities of motor vehicle manufacturers, assemblers, importers, and
9 dealers, and other related matters pertaining to road safety and environment protection.

10

11

ARTICLE II

12

DEFINITIONS

13

14

SEC. 4. *Words and phrases defined.* - As used in this Act, the following terms

shall mean:

15

“*Motor Vehicles*” shall mean any vehicle propelled by any power other than
16 muscular power using the public highway but excepting road rollers, trolley cars, street-
17 sweepers, sprinklers, lawn mowers, bulldozers, graders, forklifts, amphibians, trucks, and
18 cranes if not used on public highways, vehicles which run only on rails and tracks, and
19 tractors, trailers and engines of **all** kinds used exclusively for agricultural purposes.

20

“*Highway*” shall mean the entire width between the boundary lines of every way
21 publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for the purpose
22 of vehicular travel.

23

“*Owner*” shall mean any person or entity in whose name the motor vehicle is
24 registered with the Authority. The owner of a motor vehicle owned by the government or
25 government-controlled corporation shall be the office, agency or bureau to which the
26 motor vehicle belongs.

1 “*Component*” shall mean any part of a motor vehicle such as engine, chassis and
2 body or parts thereof.

3 “*Dealer*” shall mean any duly accredited person, association, partnership, firm or
4 corporation engaged in the assembly, manufacture, importation, buying and selling, or
5 rebuilding of motor vehicles or its components evidenced by a commercial invoice.

6 “*Director-General*” shall mean the actual or acting chief of the national Land
7 Transportation Authority duly appointed or designated by the President of the Republic
8 of the Philippines.

9 “*Deputies*” shall mean the organic and duly authorized representatives of the
10 Director General to carry out the provisions of this Act.

11 “*Agents*” shall mean the duly designated representatives of the Director General
12 authorized to assist in enforcing the provisions of this Act.

13 “*Parking or parked*” means that the motor vehicle has been brought to a stop on
14 the shoulder or proper edge of a highway, and remains inactive in that place or closed
15 thereto for an appreciable period of time. A motor vehicle which properly stops, merely
16 to discharge a passenger or to take in a waiting passenger, or to load and unload a small
17 quantity of freight with reasonable dispatch shall not be considered as “parked” if the
18 motor vehicle again moves away without delay.

19 “*Driver*” shall mean any person who is in actual physical control of a motor
20 vehicle in operation.

21 “*Professional Driver*” shall mean any person hired or paid to operate a motor
22 vehicle whether in private use or for hire to the public. Any person driving his own motor
23 vehicle for business or for hire is a professional driver. Nothing in this definition shall
24 prevent a professional driver from operating a private vehicle without compensation.

25 “*Non Professional Driver*” shall mean any person operating any vehicle except a
26 public utility vehicle, without compensation.

1 “*Conductor*” shall mean a person assisting the driver of a public utility vehicle to
2 ensure the safety of cargoes and/or passengers while said vehicle is in operation.

3 “*Certificate of Public Convenience*” shall mean the authorization issued by the
4 Authority for the operation of land transportation services for public use as required by
5 law.

6 “*Authorized Route*” shall mean the approved origin and destination points linked
7 by a chain of highways and streets open for public use over which the service is
8 authorized.

9 “*Public Utility Operator*” shall mean the registered owner of the motor vehicles
10 authorized for public utility operation by the Authority.

11 “*Abandonment of Service*” shall mean the suspension or cessation of service by a
12 public utility operator in its authorized route or portions thereof. A partial abandonment
13 of service is presumed when a public utility operator fails to field the authorized number
14 of units on a route after due notice from the Authority.

15

16

ARTICLE III

17

CREATION, POWERS AND FUNCTION

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SEC. 6. Powers and Functions. To accomplish its mandate and objectives, the Authority is authorized to:

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(a) Prepare the National Land Transportation Development Program for approval by the NEDA Board; evaluate and package projects and investment programs;

1 and for this purpose, may call on any agency or organization whether public or
2 private whose development plans include land transportation as an integral part
3 thereof, to participate in the preparation and implementation of such programs;

4 (b) Enter into contract with domestic and foreign companies for services and
5 products duly approved in the National Land Transportation Development
6 Program;

7 (c) Promulgate, administer and enforce standards of measurements, designs, and
8 rules and regulations requiring owners of motor vehicles and operator of public
9 land transportation services to equip, install and provide in their utilities and in
10 their stations such devices, equipment, facilities and operating procedures and
11 techniques as may promote safety, protection, comfort and convenience to
12 persons and property in their charge, as well as the safety of persons and property
13 within their areas of operation;

14 (d) Issue, amend, revise, suspend or cancel certificates of public convenience or
15 permits authorizing the operation of public utility land transportation services, and
16 to prescribe the appropriate terms and conditions therefor and regulate the
17 operation of public land transportation;

18 (e) Identify, establish, prescribe and regulate routes or service, economically
19 viable capacities, zones or areas of operation of public land transportation
20 services, adjust fares, freight rates and related charges;

21 (f) Accredite and regulate the activities of motor vehicle and component
22 manufacturers, assemblers, importers and dealers; the operation of driving
23 schools; inspection stations for safety and smoke emission; clinics and
24 laboratories to conduct medical examination and psychological tests including
25 alcohol and drug testing; and insurance companies and other activities related to
26 the function of the Authority.

1 (g) Establish rules and regulations for the inspection and registration of motor
2 vehicle; issuance, suspension and revocation of driver's licenses and permits, type
3 approval for safety standards of motor vehicles and accessories; issuance of motor
4 vehicle identification plates and validating stickers;

5 (h) Promulgate rules and regulations for the effective enforcement of all land
6 transportation and traffic laws, rules and regulations and impose and collect fines
7 and penalties for violations thereof;

8 (i) Make arrest for violations of the land transportation laws;

9 (j) Issue subpoena and subpoena duces tecum to compel the appearance of motor
10 vehicle owners, drivers and other persons;

11 (k) Fix, impose and collect, and periodically review and adjust reasonable fees
12 and other related charges for services rendered, as well as administrative fines for
13 violation of pertinent laws, orders, rules and regulations, decisions and rulings;

14 (l) Compile, maintain and manage an integrated data center with appropriate
15 communications linkages for records and statistics in land transportation
16 including a uniform traffic violation accident and stolen motor vehicles reporting
17 system;

18 (m) Generate non-tax revenues out of its assets, properties and services; and

19 (n) Perform such other powers and functions as maybe provided by law.
20

21 **SEC. 7. *Governing Body.*** The governing board and policy making body of the
22 Authority shall be vested in the Board of Directors composed of the following:

- 23 1. Secretary of Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC);
- 24 2. Director General of the National Land Transportation Authority (NLTA),
25 appointed by the President as Chief Executive Officer;
- 26 3. Secretary of Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG);

- 1 4. Secretary of Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
- 2 5. Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF);
- 3 6. Secretary of the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA); and
- 4 7. A representative from the transport sector to be appointed by the President.

5 The Board shall meet at least once a month and hold special meetings upon the call of
6 the Chairman or any four members of the Board. A simple majority shall constitute a
7 quorum to transact business and a vote of at least a simple majority of the members
8 present at which there is a quorum shall be valid.

9 10 **ARTICLE IV**

11 **ADMIMSTRATION**

12 **SEC. 8. *Executive Officers.*** The Authority shall be managed by a Director-
13 General with the rank, salary and qualifications equivalent to that of a Department
14 Undersecretary, who must have sufficient knowledge and background in land
15 transportation management. He shall serve at the pleasure of the President.

16 The Director-General shall be assisted by four Deputy Director-Generals – for
17 Administration and Finance, Plans and Operations, Franchising, and Law Enforcement
18 and Adjudication - with rank, salary and qualifications equivalent to that of an Assistant
19 Secretary, preferably a Career Executive Service Officer (CESO) possessing at least 10
20 years experience and practice in land transportation management and administration.

21 The regional offices shall be headed by a Regional Executive Director under the
22 direct supervision of the Director-General with rank, salary and qualifications equivalent
23 to that of a Director IV, possessing ten years experience in land transportation
24 management, assisted by two Technical Regional Directors - one for Operations and
25 another for Administration and Finance - with rank, salary and qualifications equivalent

1 to that of a Director III and with at least ten years experience in land transportation
2 management.

3 The above-named executive officers of the Authority shall be appointed by the
4 President upon recommendation of the Board. Within one year, all such officers shall
5 apply and qualify for appointment as Career Executive Service officers.

6 For purposes of a more rigid and effective implementation of this Act, the
7 Director- General shall create the Land Transportation District Offices (LTDO) to be
8 headed by a Land Transportation District Director appointed by the Director-General.
9 The LTDO shall have the rank, salary and privileges of a Director II. The qualifications
10 herein required for LTDO shall apply to officials appointed pursuant to this law without
11 prejudice to incumbent heads of LTO district offices regardless of their status.

12

13 **SEC. 9. Powers of the Director-General.** As Chief Executive Officer of the
14 Authority, the functions and powers of the heads of the LTO, LTFRB, and OTC as
15 provided under R.A. 4136 and CA 146 as amended as well as other laws otherwise not
16 expressly defined in this Act are now deemed transferred, vested and exercised by the
17 Director-General of the Authority, including the following:

18 (1) Implement, enforce and apply the policies, programs, guidelines, procedures,
19 rules and regulations promulgated, prescribed, issued and adopted by the
20 Authority;

21 (2) Manage the affairs of the Authority and ensure the smooth operational efficiency
22 of the national land transportation system;

23 (3) Sign contracts, approve expenditures and appoint and discipline employees below
24 the level of Presidential appointees;

25 (4) Submit an annual budget to the Board for recurrent income and expenditures for
26 adoption not later than one month before the commencement of the ensuing year;

1 (5) Undertake research, studies, investigations, projects and other related activities,
2 and submit reports and recommendations to the Board for its information and or
3 approval; engage the services of experts/consultants either in full time or part
4 time basis as may be required in the performance of his functions and duties as
5 maybe determined by him, subject to the approval of the Board;

6 (6) Designate as deputies government entities with traffic-related functions, civic
7 action groups, Non-Government Organization (NGO) and Public Officers (PO)
8 of good standing;

9 (7) Do any act or thing for the proper operation and administration of the Authority;
10 and

11 (8) Perform such other functions and duties as the Board may assign from time to
12 time.

13
14 **SEC. 10. *Staffing Pattern.*** The Director-General, subject to the approval of the
15 Board shall determine the staffing pattern, the number of personnel and field offices of
16 the Authority, the functions of the central office staff, the regional and district offices;
17 define their duties and responsibilities and fix their qualifications, salaries and other
18 emoluments.

19 The Board shall act on the recommendation within (30) days from its submission,
20 otherwise, the recommendation shall be deemed approved and the same shall be
21 implemented within 90 days from approval thereof.

22
23 **SEC. 11. *Appointment and Discipline of Personnel.*** All officials of the
24 Authority, except those appointed by the President, shall be selected and appointed on the
25 basis of merit and fitness as established in a merit system program of the Authority
26 consistent with Civil Service laws and regulations.

1 The appointment of regional and district officials, except those to be appointed by
2 the President, may be delegated by the Director-General to the Regional Executive
3 Director. Except for the Director General, all officials to be appointed by the President
4 shall be recommended by the Board.

5 The power to discipline employees resides with the Director-General. Appeals on
6 the decision of the Director-General may be submitted to the Board for reconsideration.
7 Decisions of the Regional Directors may be appealed to the Director-General.

8

9

ARTICLE V

10

FINANCE

11

SEC. 12. *Sources of Funds.* Subject to the rules on government auditing, the
12 equivalent of fifty percent (50%) of its total annual revenue collections arising from
13 registration of motor vehicles, licensing of drivers, franchising and other miscellaneous
14 transactions shall be retained by the Authority to pay for its annual operations and capital
15 expenditures. Under this section, the Authority is also hereby allowed to undertake the
16 following:

17

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(a) Funds generated from its own special projects not arising from its regular
functions shall be retained by the authority for employees' welfare, subject to the
approval by the Board.

20

21

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(b) The Authority is authorized to contract loans, credits and other indebtedness as it
may deem necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act. The obligations shall be
the sole liability of the Authority unless guaranteed by the Republic of the
Philippines.

24

25

26

(c) Revenue generated from fines and penalties, including proceeds from public sale
arising from law enforcement activities, shall be retained by the Authority for its
operational and maintenance requirements.

1 (d) The collection of motor vehicle registration fees shall be reinstated to defray
2 operational costs and maintenance of national regional facilities.

3 (e) The Director-General shall, every year, prepare and adopt estimates of income
4 and expenditures and capital budget for the ensuing year. Its annual budget shall
5 be submitted to the Board for approval.

6
7 **SEC. 13. *Exemption from Taxes and Duties.*** The importation of equipment,
8 machineries, software accessories and materials used directly in the operation of the
9 Authority and which are otherwise not available locally on favorable terms, are exempted
10 from all direct and indirect taxes, duties, fees, imposts and other charges and restrictions,
11 the provisions of existing laws to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided, that, when the
12 Authority disposes of such equipment, machineries, software, accessories and materials,
13 the buyer of the same shall pay to the government the corresponding taxes and duties as
14 assessed by the Bureau of Internal Revenue and Bureau of Customs.

15
16 **ARTICLE VI**

17 **REGULATION OF PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES**

18 **SEC. 14. *Administrative Permits.*** Notwithstanding the provision of any law to
19 the contrary, the issuance of permits to operate public utility vehicles shall be
20 administratively processed based on rules and regulations/guidelines that the Authority
21 shall promulgate within 60 days, subject to the approval of the Board.

22 Without prejudice to the provisions of R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local
23 Government Code of 1991, the permit to operate public utility vehicles shall be issued by
24 the Authority.

25

1 **SEC. 15. *Operation of Public Utility Vehicles.*** No motor vehicle shall be
2 operated as a public conveyance or for hire without possessing a valid and subsisting
3 franchise and/or permits issued by the Authority.

4 All existing franchises and permits issued prior to the effectivity of this Act shall
5 remain valid up to the date of its expiry as indicated in the certificate or permit. Any
6 subsequent transaction related thereto shall now be processed and issued pursuant to the
7 rules and regulations of the Authority.

8
9 **SEC. 16. *Rate Fixing.*** For purposes of fixing of rates of public utility vehicles,
10 the Director-General shall undertake the necessary studies, after due consultation with the
11 involved sectors, and recommend the same to the Board for approval.

12
13 **SEC. 17. *Appeals.*** Any decision related to the issuance of permits and orders in
14 whatever form by the Director-General may be appealed to the Board within fifteen (15)
15 days from the date of receipt. Decisions and orders issued by officials properly delegated
16 to issue permits may be appealed to the Director-General within fifteen (15) days from
17 date of receipt.

18 In all cases where the aggrieved parties are not satisfied with the resolution of the
19 Authority, such decisions may be appealed to the President of the Philippines for final
20 administrative disposition.

21 Any decision related to the issuance of permits or any other orders in whatever
22 form by the appropriate officials of the LTA may be appealed in the following manner:

- 23 1. Decisions or orders of the Director-General appealable to the Board within a
24 period of 15 days computed from the date of receipt of said decision appealed
25 from. The decision of the Board shall be final and executory.

1 (b) An impounded vehicle without a known owner or lawful claimant, or after
2 three notices in newspapers of national circulation, shall be sold at public auction after
3 publication of the notice of public sale. The proceeds thereof shall be applied to the lien
4 of the government with the remaining amount credited to the Authority for use in its law
5 enforcement activities.

7 **ARTICLE VII**

8 **TRANSITORY PROVISIONS**

9 **SEC. 20. *Abolition.*** The Land Transportation Office, the Land Transportation
10 Franchising and Regulatory Board, and the Office of Transport Cooperatives in the
11 Department of Transportation and Communications as well as TMG of the PNP and
12 Traffic Enforcement Group of the MMDA are hereby abolished. Properties, assets and
13 liabilities, all powers and duties, rights and courses of actions, vested by law or exercised
14 by said abolished offices and its predecessors are hereby transferred to the Authority.

15
16 **SEC. 21. *Holdover Functions.*** To ensure smooth transition into the structure of
17 the Authority, all officers and employees of the defunct LTO, LTFRB, OTC, TMG of the
18 PNP and the TEG of MMDA shall continue to exercise their usual functions, duties and
19 responsibilities unless otherwise directed.

20 The Authority shall ensure that all present employees of the abolished agencies
21 shall be accommodated without diminution of their salaries as a result of the
22 reorganization. Officials and employees who opt to retire during the reorganization shall
23 receive, in addition to retirement benefits and pensions granted under existing retirement
24 laws, an additional two (2) months salary for every year of service. An amount
25 corresponding to the retirement benefits of all employees opting to retire shall be held in
26 reserve by the National Treasury to pay for this purpose. *Provided,* That employees who

1 have opted to retire and who have received retirement benefits will no longer be eligible
2 for employment in the Authority.

3

4 **SEC. 22. *Saving Clause.*** All orders, rules, regulations, permit, licenses,
5 decisions and privileges which have been issued, made, granted or allowed to become
6 effective by the former LTO, LTFRB, OTC, TMG of PNP and TEG of MMDA or its
7 predecessors, shall continue to be in effect according to their terms until modified,
8 terminated, superseded, set aside or repealed.

9

10

ARTICLE IX

11

PENAL AND OTHER PROVISIONS

12

SEC. 23. *Penalty for Violations.* The Authority, subject to the approval of the
13 Board, shall issue guidelines and the schedule of fines and penalties for violations
14 committed under this Act.

15

16

SEC. 24. *Punishment for Other Offenses.* The conviction of any person for any
17 offense under this Act shall not bar his prosecution for any other offenses which may
18 have been committed by such person concurrently with the commission of the offense of
19 which he was convicted or in doing the act or series of acts which constituted the offense
20 of which he was convicted.

21

22

SEC. 25. *Duty of Clerks of Court.* It is hereby made the duty of clerks of the
23 regional trial courts and municipal trial courts trying traffic violation cases to certify to
24 the Authority the result of any case, whether criminal or civil, involving violations of any
25 provisions of this Act, or other laws and ordinances relating to motor vehicles. Said
26 certificates shall specifically contain the name of the driver or owner of the vehicle

1 involved, his address, the number of his license and/or the certificate of registration of his
2 vehicle, the date thereof and the offense for which he was convicted or acquitted.

4 **ARTICLE X**

5 **COLLECTION OF FEES, TAXES AND FINES, LIENS, ALLOTMENT OF** 6 **FUNDS**

7 **SEC. 26. *Collection of Fees; National and Local Taxes; Toll Fees.*** The
8 collection of all fees, taxes and fines, under the provisions of this Act shall be made in
9 accordance with the regulations to be prescribed by the Authority, subject to the approval
10 of the Board.

11 a) No taxes or fees other than those prescribed in this Act shall be imposed for the
12 registration or operation or on the ownership of any motor vehicle, or for the exercise of
13 the profession of driver, by any local government, the provisions of any charter to the
14 contrary notwithstanding; provided, however, that any provincial board, city or municipal
15 council or board or other competent authority may enact or collect such reasonable and
16 equitable toll fees for the use of such bridges and ferries within their respective
17 jurisdiction as may be authorized and approved by the proper authorities, and also for the
18 use of such public roads as may be authorized by the President of the Philippines upon
19 the recommendation of the proper authority.

20 b) Lien Upon Motor Vehicles. Any balance of fees for registration, renewal
21 registration or delinquent registration of a motor vehicle remaining unpaid and all fines
22 imposed upon any vehicle owner shall constitute a first lien upon the motor vehicle
23 concerned. The Director-General is hereby vested with the authority to issue a warrant of
24 constructive or actual distraint or levy to any owner of a motor vehicle who has any
25 balance of fees for registration, renewal or delinquent registration of a motor vehicle
26 remaining unpaid which upon demand by the Director-General or his deputies executing

1 such warrant, the owner of the vehicle shall surrender the same at the time demanded,
2 except when the attachment or execution is under any judicial process. Any owner who
3 fails or refuses to surrender any such property or vehicle shall be punished by a fine not
4 exceeding the amount of the fees, including penalties and interests, if any, for the
5 collection of which such warrant has been issued, together with the cost and interest, if
6 any, until surrendered.

7

8 **ARTICLE X**

8

9

9 **FINAL PROVISION**

10 **SEC. 27.** No local government shall enact or enforce any ordinance or resolution
11 in conflict with the provisions of this Act, or prohibit any deputy or agent of the
12 Authority to enforce this Act within their respective territorial jurisdiction, the provisions
13 of any charter to the contrary notwithstanding.

14

15 **SEC. 28. Appropriations.** To carry out effectively the provisions of this Act
16 during the transition period, the amount equivalent to thirty five percent (35%) of the
17 collection for the year is hereby appropriated in addition to the appropriations provided in
18 the General Appropriation Act for the LTO, LTFRB, OTC, TMG and TEG.

19

20 **SEC. 29. Separability Clause.** If for any reason, any section or provision of this
21 Act is declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof
22 which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

23

24 **SEC. 30. Repealing Clause.** All acts, decrees, orders, and instructions, or parts
25 thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed and modified
26 accordingly.

1 **SEC. 31. *Effectivity.*** This act shall take effect thirty (30) days after approval and
2 publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,