## FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FIRST REGULAR SESSION

) OFFICE OF THE STRETARY

SENATE

S.B. No. 22

ACCEINED BY

Vara Pasa Mariana .-

Introduced by: SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

It is our state's policy to provide for and ensure the safety and wellbeing of the people. We must also bear in mind that in addition to this, health and sanitation should also be a forefront variable in the measures that we craft.

With the advancement of technology and the steadily rising increase automobiles and motor vehicles in the turn of the century, our country has reacted by prioritizing the creation, improvement and rehabilitation of roads and highways to accommodate the ever growing number of road users.

In support of the rapid development of our country's road network, we have implemented various measures. These however are mostly aimed at road safety and traffic management. This measure will address a different yet equally important aspect, the health of our motorists, especially those that who travel long distances along our highways.

There are long stretches of roads, especially in the rural and provincial areas that have no restroom facilities for motorists to relieve themselves in. Because of this, motorists are left with no choice but to stop and relieve themselves at the roadside where it is not only dangerous due to the oncoming traffic, but also highly unsanitary.

It is for this reason why I urge the passage of this measure. We must provide for the construction and maintenance of public restrooms at specified intervals along highways and roads across the country.

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR

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## "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC RESTROOMS ALONG NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

- **SECTION 1.** This Act shall be known as the "Land Transport Support Facilities for Hygiene and Convenience Act".
- **SEC. 2**. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to provide public restrooms along national and provincial highways and to develop hygienic practice among land transport passengers.
- **SEC. 3.** Public restrooms shall be constructed every thirty (30) to fifty (50) kilometers apart along national and provincial highways throughout the country. These shall be erected within a distance of at least three (3) meters from the shoulder of the highway, zoning ordinance provision to the contrary notwithstanding.
- **SEC. 4.** The maintenance and supervision of the public restrooms shall be vested in the local government unit concerned. A reasonable payment per head of passenger/user which shall be determined by the sanggunian may be collected and shall accrue to the local government unit.
- **SEC. 5.** The collection, if any, from the use of the public restrooms shall be held in a trust fund. Income derived from the public restrooms operation shall be used for the development projects of the particular barangay and shall be fully covered with proper documents for purposes of audit, and to serve as a guide for the city or municipal mayor who shall exercise overall supervision over the utilization of such trust fund.

- SEC. 6. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in coordination with the Department of Tourism (DOT), the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall be mainly responsible for the production of the standard sized public restrooms and the programming of the implementation of this project. It shall see to it that these public restrooms are provided with accessibility features for disabled persons and are consistent with the provisions in Section 54 of Presidential Decree No. 856, otherwise known as the Code of Sanitation of the Philippines.
- **SEC. 7.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.
- **SEC. 8.** All laws and parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified as the case may be.
- **SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,