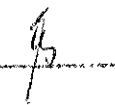


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 NOV 12 P4:

SENATE
S.B. No. 1863

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Forum on Road Safety for Motorcycle Riders conducted by the College of Development Communication of the University of the Philippines – Los Baños, in cooperation with the Department of Health and the World Health Organization, revealed that there are nearly 1.2 million people who die each year and about 50 million more who are injured or who incur disabilities due to road traffic crashes. Motorcycle and bicycle riders make up a large proportion of these statistics.

There are about 3.5 million motorcycles in the Philippines. This consists of 45% of all registered vehicles (Land Transportation Office, 2006). Hence, it is not surprising to note that motorcycles are now the 2nd most common type of vehicle involved in traffic accidents (21%) next only to automobiles (27%) (PNP Management Group, 2006) It has been found that motorcycles are more likely than other vehicles to be involved in a fatal collision with a fixed object and more likely to be involved in an injury collision with a fixed object. Of the total 14,202 traffic accidents in 2004, 3,010 (21%) involved motorcycles (Traffic Management Group). These numbers steadily rose to 24% in 2005. In the first two months of 2006 alone, the Traffic Management Group records show that 35% of the total accidents involved motorcycles.

The Hurt Report (Motorcycle Accident Cause Factors and Identification of Countermeasures) indicated that the most deadly injuries to the accident victims were injuries to the chest and head. It noted that the use of safety helmet is the single critical factor in the prevention or reduction of head injury. Helmets are estimated to be 37% effective in preventing fatal injuries and 67 percent effective in preventing brain injuries to motorcyclists. Safety helmet is a significantly effective injury countermeasure. However, there is a significant reduction in the use of helmets by motorcycle riders. Its use declined from 71% in 1998 to 48% in 2005. True enough, 60% of the motorcyclists were not wearing helmets at the time of the accident.

The significance of helmet use by motorcycle riders is highly recognized and appreciated. In this regard, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
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) 7 NOV 12 P 4:55

SENATE
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RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

**AN ACT
MANDATING ALL MOTORCYCLE RIDERS
TO WEAR STANDARD QUALITY HELMET WHILE DRIVING,
AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known and cited as the "Helmet Act of 2007"

SECTION 2. Standard quality helmets are helmets that comply with the specifications issued by the Department of Trade and Industry regarding the appropriate type of helmet to be used by motorcycle riders.

The Department of Trade and Industry is therefore mandated by this Act to release guidelines, which should include the specifications, regarding standard quality helmets.

SECTION 3. All motorcycle riders, the driver and the back rider, must wear standard quality helmets while driving motorcycles, whether long or short drives, in any time of the day, in any type of road and highway.

SECTION 4. Drivers of tricycles shall be exempted to comply with the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 5. The Department of Transportation and Communications, with its attached agency Land Transportation Office, is mandated by this Act to issue guidelines necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 6. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Act shall be subject to confiscation of driver's license and/or a fine of not less than three thousand pesos (P3,000), but not exceeding twenty thousand pesos (P20,000).

SECTION 7. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved.