

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

PS Res. No. 408

Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE JEEPNEY MODERNIZATION PROGRAM WITH THE END IN VIEW OF FORMULATING THE APPROPRIATE POLICY TO ADDRESS THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF THE COMMUTING PUBLIC WHILE CONSIDERING RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF OPERATORS AND DRIVERS AFFECTED

WHEREAS, jeepneys are a popular means of public transportation in the Philippine. They were originally made from US military jeeps left over from World War II and are well-known for their flamboyant decoration and crowded seating;¹

WHEREAS, the iconic jeepney has for decades been the mainstay in the lives of daily commuters all over the country in spite of the expanding travel options including the public utility buses (PUBs), taxis, tricycles, Transport Network Vehicle Services (TNVS), Transport Network Companies (TNCs), shuttle services and public and private railways, such as the Light Rail Transit (LRT), Mass Rail Transit (MRT), and Philippine National Railways (PNR);

WHEREAS, per the Philippines Statistics Authority Philippine Yearbook for 2013, the number of jeepneys in the country is 1,794,572,² while data from the 2007 Mega Manila Public Transport Study shows that the number of operating units of jeepneys in Metro Manila alone is 48,366;³

WHEREAS, in vast majority of the country especially outside the National Capital Region (NCR), jeepneys remain the most affordable and accessible mode of transport providing, in the process, livelihood to thousands of micro-operators and drivers. In areas not accessible by bus or trucks, jeepneys are an invaluable mode of transporting not only passengers but also rice, equipment, and even farm or sea products for sale in the nearest market;

WHEREAS, Department of Transportation (DOTr) has promulgated the framework for the implementation of the country's jeepney modernization program, which includes the replacement of units that have been operating for 15 years or more with environment-friendly vehicles;

¹ Characterization of Jeepney Vehicle in Metro Manila, Glenda Colos, September 28, 2005

² 2013 Philippine Statistical Yearbook, Philippine Statistics Authority,

³ Philippines National Implementation Plan (NIP) on Environment Improvement in the Transport Sector Low Pollution-Low Emission
http://dotr.gov.ph/images/front/other_matters/nip.pdf

WHEREAS, in May 2017, the DOTr launched the PUV modernization program (or the jeepney modernization program) which will be started through the release of Omnibus Franchising Guidelines (OFG). The OFG seeks to address traffic problems and eliminate colorum operations by rationalizing routes according to the needs of each local government unit (LGU);

WHEREAS, the modernization program requires that PUV's should comply with Euro-4 standards or use renewable energy. The replacement of 15-year old units will come hand-in-hand with the financing program to allow operators to buy new PUVs;

WHEREAS, while the jeepney modernization program is integral to the overall traffic management solution, there is an urgent need to thoroughly review and reassess the impact of the program upon the sustainability of the jeepney operations that serve the vast majority of the public commuter and allay the fears of the transport micro-operators and drivers who will be directly affected with implementation thereof;

WHEREAS, there is yet no significant reliable, affordable and convenient mass transport public infrastructure in place to serve as a viable option to the millions of Filipino commuters as an alternative to the jeepneys thereby necessitating the thorough review and reassessment of the jeepney modernization program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate direct the appropriate committee to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the jeepney modernization program with the end in view of formulating the appropriate policy to address the transport needs of the commuting public while considering rights and welfare of the operators and drivers affected.

Adopted,



SONNY ANGARA