

SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 793

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Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SERVICES AND PUBLIC WORKS ON THE ALLEGED ABSENCE OF ROAD WARNINGS INDICATING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OF GOVERNMENT WHICH CAUSES SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF DEATH AND ACCIDENTS, AND TO MANDATE CONTRACTORS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO OBSERVE ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES GEARED TOWARDS SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE

1 WHEREAS, Article XII, Section 1 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that our
2 economy shall provide "...more equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and
3 wealth; a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation
4 for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the
5 quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged."

6 WHEREAS, to achieve the Constitutional objective cited above, timely construction
7 and maintenance of quality infrastructure- particularly roads and highways- is necessary;

8 WHEREAS, roads and highways serve as the arteries and veins of our country, as
9 they supply firms with the resources needed for their products, provide Filipinos with their
10 good and services, and invigorate the national economy;

11 WHEREAS, safety is a paramount concern in the construction of roads and
12 highways, and such has been included in as a policy of the State under Title V, Chapter
13 I, Section 1 of the Administrative Code of 1987, which reads as follows:

1 "The State shall maintain an engineering and construction arm and
2 continuously develop its technology, for the purposes of **ensuring the**
3 **safety of all infrastructure facilities** and securing for all public works
4 and highways the highest efficiency and the most appropriate quality in
5 construction..." (emphasis supplied)

6 WHEREAS, pursuant to such Constitutional and legal mandates, the Department
7 of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) has issued several Orders and Circulars which
8 seek to institutionalize safety in the construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of roads
9 and highways, which include:

- 10 1. Department Circular No. 09, Series of 2004;
- 11 2. Department Order No. 36, Series of 2007;
- 12 3. Department Order No. 13, Series of 2008;
- 13 4. Department Order No. 41, Series of 2012;
- 14 5. Department Order No. 56, Series of 2005;
- 15 6. Department Order No. 135, Series of 2015;

16 WHEREAS, despite the plethora of such Department Orders and Circulars, the
17 DPWH observed that "...some contractors are not observing/implementing Road Works
18 Safety and requirements during the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges
19 which results to public inconvenience and accidents";

20 WHEREAS, one glaring infraction of road construction and/or rehabilitation
21 regulations is the absence of visible signage, lights, and other warning devices in certain
22 projects;

23 WHEREAS, this appears to be a long-standing issue, as there are legislation filed
24 as far back as the 13th Congress which seeks to call attention to and address these
25 problems;

26 WHEREAS, otherwise preventable road accidents have occurred due to the
27 absence of such signage, which are then erroneously attributed to "driver error";

28 WHEREAS, both chambers of Congress are currently deliberating on measures on
29 transport safety, which includes road safety among its components;

1 **NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of
2 the Philippines, to urge the Senate Committees on Public Services and Public Works on
3 the alleged absence of Road Warnings indicating construction projects of Government
4 which causes substantial number of death and accidents, and to mandate contractors
5 and government agencies to observe all necessary precautionary measures geared
6 towards safety and convenience

Adopted,


GRACE POE