CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS Third Regular Session

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8322

By Representatives Velarde, Sarmiento (C.), Acop, Marquez, Abu, Biazon, Manalo, Paduano, Revilla, Pimentel and Nieto, per Committee Report No. 879

AN ACT REQUIRING THE MANDATORY COMPLIANCE BY ALL MOTORCYCLE RIDERS AND OPERATORS TO AUTOMATICALLY TURN ON AND RIDE WITH THEIR HEADLIGHTS ON AT ALL HOURS OF THE DAY AND NIGHT ON ALL ROADS

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Mandatory Automatic Headlights On for Motorcycles Act".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to secure and safeguard its citizenry, particularly the riders and operators of motorcycles as well as their passengers and pedestrians, from the ruinous and extremely injurious effects of vehicular accidents. Towards this end, the State shall pursue a more proactive and preventive, rather than merely remedial or reactionary, approach with the mandatory enforcement of a low-cost method to reduce and prevent road crashes by requiring all motorcycles in operation with their headlights turned on at all

hours of the day and night, thereby increasing conspicuity and visibility.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act:

4 (a) *Motorcycle* refers to any motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed with not more than two (2) wheels in contact with the ground and weighing not more than three thousand three hundred kilograms (3,300 kg).

The term motorcycle does not include bicycles and tricycles or motorcycles equipped with a sidecar, whether or not intended for private use or as a public utility vehicle or vehicle for hire.

- (b) Rider refers to the driver or operator of a motorcycle.
- (c) Road refers to any road, street, expressway, highway or thoroughfare within the territorial jurisdiction of the Republic of the Philippines, including those that have been determined as limited access facilities.
- SEC. 4. Mandatory Use of Headlights During the Day and Night. For the safety of all riders of motorcycles and passengers thereon, and the public in general, all motorcycles, without exception, may only run on any road with their headlights turned on at all hours of the day and night.
- SEC. 5. Provisions for Automatic Headlights On System, Mechanism or Device. Following the effectivity of this Act, all motorcycle manufacturers, assemblers and distributors must, before the sale or distribution of any motorcycle, ensure that the same is equipped with an automatic headlights on system, mechanism or device which automatically turns on the headlights when the engine

of the motorcycle is started and keeps the headlights in that state as long as the engine is running.

- SEC. 6. *Importation*. It shall be unlawful for any person to import or cause the importation of any motorcycle without the appropriate and operational automatic headlights on system, mechanism or device required in Section 5 hereof.
- SEC. 7. Type of Headlights Required. Every motorcycle must be equipped with at least one (1) and not more than two (2) working headlights.

Whether the motorcycle is equipped with single beam or multiple beam headlights:

- (a) The headlights must be of sufficient intensity to reveal a person or a vehicle at any distance of not less than thirty point five meters (30.5 m.) when the motorcycle is operated at any speed less than forty point two hundred twenty-five kilometers (40.225 km.) per hour and at any distance of not less than sixty-one meters (61 m.) when operated at a speed of forty point two hundred twenty-five kilometers (40.225 km.) to fifty-six point three hundred fifteen kilometers (56.315 km.) per hour and a distance of ninety-one point five meters (91.5 m.) when operated at a speed greater than fifty-six point three hundred fifteen kilometers (56.315 km.) per hour.
- (b) If the motorcycle has a multibeam headlight, the upper beam must meet the minimum requirement set forth above.
- (c) If there is a single beam headlight, it must be aimed so that when the motorcycle is loaded, none of the high intensity portion of the light, at a distance of seven point six hundred

twenty-five meters (7.625 m.) ahead, will project higher than the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes.

SEC. 8. Registration. — Upon the effectivity of this Act, no new motorcycle shall be allowed initial registration and succeeding renewal of registration unless it is equipped with the necessary automatic headlights on system, mechanism or device. The renewal of registration of in-use motorcycles without the required automatic headlights on system, mechanism or device shall not be allowed one (1) year after the issuance of the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of this Act.

SEC. 9. Penalties and Fines. — In the enforcement of this Act, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) shall impose fines and penalties against the riders, manufacturers, assemblers, importers or distributors for violating the provisions of this Act. The following shall be the basis in determining the fines and penalties: Provided, That a grace period of six (6) months from the effectivity of the IRR shall be granted to allow the LTO and the other government agencies concerned the opportunity to conduct a nationwide information campaign.

- (a) On the rider who drives or operates a motorcycle without its headlights turned on at any time of the day or night:
- (1) a minimum fine of One thousand pesos (P1,000.00) but not to exceed Two thousand pesos (P2,000.00) for the first violation;
- (2) a minimum fine of Two thousand five hundred pesos (P2,500.00) but not to exceed Three thousand pesos (P3,000.00) for the second violation; and

(3) a minimum fine of Three thousand five hundred pesos (P3,500.00) but not to exceed Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) and suspension of driver's license for a period of one (1) month for the third and succeeding violations.

- (b) On any manufacturer, assembler, importer and distributor for every unit of motorcycle found to have been sold, distributed or imported without a working headlight or not equipped with an automatic headlight on system, mechanism or device:
 - (1) a minimum fine of Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) but not to exceed Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) and suspension of the license to manufacture, assemble, import or distribute for a period of one (1) year for the first violation;
 - (2) a minimum fine of Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) but not to exceed Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) and suspension of the license to manufacture, assemble, import or distribute for a period of two (2) years for the second violation; and
- (3) a fine of Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) and suspension of the license to manufacture, assemble, import or distribute for a period of five (5) years for the third violation.
- SEC. 10. Nationwide Public Information Campaign. —

 (a) The LTO, in coordination with the Philippine Information Agency, the Department of Education (DepEd), private agencies and organizations concerned, shall undertake a nationwide information education and communication campaign for the attainment of the objectives of this Act. The campaign shall stress on the safety and health value of riding with headlights on while using the motorcycle

- on all roads at all times of the day and night to support the most effective enforcement of this Act.
- 3 (b) The LTO, in coordination with the local government units, 4 shall likewise utilize the services of citizen groups and community 5 organizations for the promotion of public safety awareness in 6 observance of and compliance with this Act.
 - SEC. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The LTO shall be the agency primarily responsible for the enforcement and implementation of this Act. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the LTO shall formulate and issue the necessary IRR and guidelines to ensure the effective implementation of this Act.
- SEC. 12. Separability Clause. If any provision or part hereof is held unconstitutional, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
- SEC. 13. Repealing Clause. Section 34, Article IV of
 Republic Act No. 4136, otherwise known as the "Land
 Transportation and Traffic Code", on accessories of motor vehicles,
 and the provisions of any law, executive order, decree, issuance,
 ordinance, rule and regulation, or parts thereof contrary to or
 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed,
 modified or amended accordingly.
- SEC. 14. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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