

Bicycle riding not only promotes health and leisure but also provides for an alternative solution to high fuel prices, increasing transport fares, traffic management, air and noise pollution and high cost of motorized vehicles including maintenance and parking fees.

The bill seeks to provide a framework for a bicycle law on a national level so that Filipino commuters may find a cheaper alternative to get to their destination while saving the environment from harmful emissions.



MARK A. VILLAR
Senator

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE
S. No. 218

RECEIVED BY: _____



Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR BICYCLE RIGHTS, CREATION OF LOCAL BIKEWAYS
OFFICE (LBO), ESTABLISHING INFRASTRUCTURE IN RELATION THERETO
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Bicycle Act of 2022."

2 Sec 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to protect and
3 promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them
4 and to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology
5 in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

6 Likewise, in view of the fluctuating fuel prices in the world market, the State
7 recognizes the need for cheap alternative means of transportation and encourages
8 the use of non-motorized and environment friendly modes of transport.

9 Sec 3. Definition of Terms. – For the purpose of this Act, the term:

10 a) "Bicycle" means any two wheeled vehicles having a rear drive which
11 is solely human powered and having a seat height of 25 inches or
12 greater when the seat is in the lowest possible position;

- 1 b) "Local Bikeways Office (LBO)" refers to the agency in charge of
- 2 implementing policies, rules and regulations pertinent to this Act;
- 3 c) "Cyclist" shall refer to drivers of bicycles
- 4 d) "Department" shall refer to the Department of Public Works and
- 5 Highways;
- 6 e) "Driver" means any person who drives a vehicle, motorized or non-
- 7 motorized;
- 8 f) "Lane" means any longitudinal strips designated for passage of
- 9 bicycles;
- 10 g) "Non-Motorized Transport (NMT)" means any vehicle which does not
- 11 use a motorized engine;
- 12 h) "Road" means the entire surface of any way or street open to public
- 13 traffic;

14 Sec 4. Creation of Bikeways. – All main roads and highways shall be provided
15 with Bicycle Lanes or "bikeways" identified by the LBO under the supervision of the
16 city or municipal engineering office.

17 Sec 5. Powers and Functions of the LBO. – The LBO shall be an adjunct of the
18 city or municipal engineering office and shall have the following powers and functions:

- 19 a) To manage the construction and maintenance of a bikeway network
- 20 including the identification of a bikeway roadmap;
- 21 b) To establish provision of safe and strategic parking facilities, road
- 22 signages and maps, including the planting of trees in designated
- 23 areas of the network;
- 24 c) To encourage partnership with local and foreign organizations to
- 25 facilitate easy access to bicycles;
- 26 d) To conduct education and information drives on the benefits of using
- 27 bicycles or NMTs in order to promote the usage of the same;
- 28 e) To cause all bicycles operating on the bikeways to be registered and
- 29 determine therefore the manner of such registration;

- 1 f) To maintain and keep a bicycle registry where the LBO, within sixty
2 (60) days from the approval of this Act, shall have formulated a
3 system of procedures pertinent to bicycle registration.

4 Sec 6. Bicycle Park. – Each city or municipality shall create, through the LBO
5 and the city or municipal engineering office, a Bicycle Park where provisions for
6 bicycles are present such as but not limited to bikeways, bicycle parking areas and
7 similar infrastructure. Such Bicycle Parks shall be funded by the city or municipality by
8 allocating thirty percent (30%) of their respective revenues raised from miscellaneous
9 activities like parking and license fees.

10 Sec 7. Rights, Duties and Obligations of Cyclists. – The following shall be the
11 rights, duties and obligations of cyclists:

- 12 a) Ride on any public road or street provided that it has been designated
13 as a bikeway except highways or where signs specifically prohibiting
14 bikes have been posted;
- 15 b) Every person riding a bicycle on the designated bikeways shall be
16 granted all the rights and shall be subject to all the duties applicable
17 to drivers of motorized vehicles except those which by their nature
18 are inapplicable;
- 19 c) A trailer or semitrailer may be attached to the bicycle;
- 20 d) Right and left turn signals shall be given no less than 100 feet from
21 the turn while stopped waiting to turn. Such signals may be given
22 intermittently rather than continuously if the hand giving the signal
23 is needed to control the bicycle;
- 24 e) An audible signal shall be given before overtaking; When riding at
25 night, a bicycle shall be equipped with reflective material visible from
26 both sides for at least six hundred (600) feet, or a lighted lamp visible
27 from both sides for at least five hundred (500) feet from a motor
28 vehicle;

- 1 f) A bicycle and its corresponding cyclist may be equipped with
2 additional lights and reflectors;
- 3 g) A cyclist shall keep one hand on the handlebar at all times;
- 4 h) A cyclist must always wear a helmet properly where the chin strap is
5 securely fastened;
- 6 i) Every bicycle shall be equipped with brakes that are capable of
7 stopping the bicycle within twenty-five (25) feet from a speed of
8 10mph on dry, clean level pavement;

9 Sec 8. Restrictions. – The following are restrictions imposed upon cyclists and
10 the right to use a bicycle:

- 11 a) No bicycle shall carry more persons that it was designed to carry
12 except when another regular seat or trailer towed by the bicycle is
13 present;
- 14 b) Persons riding a bicycle shall not cling to another vehicle while in the
15 designated bikeway;
- 16 c) Bicycles may not be parked in areas other than those specifically
17 designated as such by the CBO;
- 18 d) A cyclist shall not ride a bicycle on a sidewalk or crosswalk;
- 19 e) A cyclist shall not carry anything on the bicycle unless it is in a basket,
20 bag, rack or trailer designed for that purpose;
- 21 f) A modified bicycle is not allowed on the bikeways, or that which
22 makes the hands higher than the shoulders when gripping the
23 handlebars;
- 24 g) No person shall have ownership or custody of a bicycle which has a
25 destroyed, removed, altered, covered or defaced serial number;
- 26 h) No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than 1s
27 reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

28 Sec 9. Obedience to Traffic Laws and Devices. – Any person operating a bicycle
29 shall obey the instructions of official traffic control signs, and other control devices

1 applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer. Whenever
2 authorized signs are posted, a person operating a bicycle shall not disobey the
3 direction of such sign except when that person dismounts from the bicycle, in which
4 case such person shall then obey the regulations applicable to pedestrians. No person
5 shall ride or operate a bicycle in any direction except that permitted for vehicular traffic
6 traveling on the same side of the bikeway.

7 Sec 10. Flagging By a Police Officer. – A uniformed police officer, or any
8 deputized traffic officer, may stop, inspect and test a bicycle that is reasonably
9 suspected to be unsafe or to have improper equipment, or is ostensibly unsafe or has
10 improper equipment. He may also stop any cyclist operating the bicycle in such a
11 manner as to pose danger to others.

12 Sec 11. Riding on Bicycle Lanes. – Every person operating a bicycle upon a
13 designated bikeway lane shall remain inside such lane, exercising due care when
14 passing a standing vehicle or a vehicle proceeding in the same direction. When a
15 person operating a bicycle upon a bikeway at a speed less than the normal speed of
16 traffic, such person may move out of the lane under any of the following
17 circumstances:

- 18 a) Whenever overtaking or passing another bicycle, vehicle or
19 pedestrian within the lane or about to enter the lane if such
20 overtaking or passing cannot be done safely within the lane;
21 b) When preparing for a turn at an intersection or into a private road or
22 driveway;
23 c) When reasonably necessary to leave the bicycle lane to avoid debris
24 or hazardous conditions; or
25 d) Other similar circumstances.

26 Sec 12. Yielding Right-of-Way from Bicycle Paths to Sidewalks. – Every person
27 riding a bicycle on a bikeway that is about to enter or cross a roadway shall yield the
28 right-of-way to all traffic on such roadway.

1 Sec 13. Motor Vehicles on Bikeways. – Whenever a bikeway has been
2 established on a road, any person operating a motor vehicle on such road shall not
3 drive in the bikeway except to park when parking is permitted, to enter or leave the
4 road or prepare for a turn.

5 Sec 14. Exercise of Due Care. – Every cyclist shall exercise due care to avoid
6 colliding with any pedestrian, or any person operating a bicycle or other device
7 propelled by human or animal power, upon any road, and shall give warning by
8 sounding the horn when necessary and shall exercise proper precautions upon
9 observing any child or any incapacitated person upon a road.

10 Sec 15. Bicycle Lane Network to Link Cities and Municipalities. – The
11 Departments of Transportation (DOTr), Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Interior
12 and Local Government (DILG), Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) and the
13 local government units (LGUs) shall plan and construct an interconnecting bicycle lane
14 network to link cities and municipalities and pursue similar approaches towards a
15 sustainable and low carbon emission transport system.

16 Sec 16. Penalties. – Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Act
17 shall be subject to the penalty of a fine of not less than Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00)
18 but not more than One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00). If such violation causes damage
19 or injury to persons or property then the appropriate provisions of the Civil Code and
20 the Revised Penal Code shall take effect.

21 Sec 17. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The DOTr, DPWH, DILG,
22 MMDA, and the local government units (LGUs) shall coordinate and formulate the rules
23 and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act within ninety (90)
24 days from the effectivity of this Act.

25 Sec 18. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this
26 Act shall be charged to the appropriations or funds of the implementing agencies and
27 LGUs.

1 Sec 19. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
2 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall
3 remain in force and effect.

4 Sec 20. Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
5 order, letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this
6 Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

7 Sec 21. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
8 complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,