



Republic of the Philippines

Senate

Manila

'98 AUG 25 P4:26

RECEIVED BY: 6

INFORMATION SHEET ON  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 3  
On 1137  
Filed on 25 AUG 1998

a) COMMITTEE(s) which reported out the bill(s)/resolution(s):

PUBLIC SERVICES

(primary)

(secondary, if any)

b) BILL(s) and/or RESOLUTION(s) reported out and taken into consideration:

Bill/Resolution No.

Referred to the Cttee(s) on:

Author(s)

1. SBN 69

PUBLIC SERVICES

Sens. Flavier, Coseteng and Sotto

2. SBN 248

"

Sens. Osmeña III, Coseteng and Sotto

3. SBN 695

"

Sen. Santiago

c) ACTION TAKEN by the Committee(s):

☒ Recommending Approval

☐ with amendments

☐ without amendments

☒ in substitution of SB NOS. 69, 248 & 695

☐ in consolidation with \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Laid on the Table / Archived

d) COMMITTEE MEETINGS/PUBLIC HEARINGS CONDUCTED:

Date: AUG. 13, '98

Venue: PECSON RM.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Venue: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: AUG. 20, '98

Venue: PECSON RM.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Venue: \_\_\_\_\_

e) If this is a Substitute or Consolidated Bill, does it have any new REVENUE or APPROPRIATION Provision? NONE

If Yes, has the bill been referred to the Finance or Ways and Means Committee and what were its recommendations?

f) RELATED/COUNTERPART MEASURE from the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Bill/Resolution No.(s)

Status in the House

Status in the Senate

NONE

g) MEMBERS Who Failed to Sign the Report; and Reasons:

SEN. REVILLA - NOT AVAILABLE

h) Additional Remarks:

submitted by: ANTHONY A. SAMONTE  
Legislative Committee Secretary  
date submitted: 25 August 1998

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

'98 AUG 25 P 4 :26

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 6

---

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 3**

Submitted by the Committee on Public Services on 25 AUG 1998.

Re : Senate Bill No. 1137 (Prepared by the Committee)

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 69, 248 and 695.

Sponsors : Senators Sotto III, Flavier, Coseteng, Osmeña III and Santiago.

---

**MR. PRESIDENT :**

The Committee on Public Services to which was referred Senate Bill No. 69, introduced by Senators Flavier, Coseteng and Sotto III, entitled:

**"AN ACT  
REQUIRING THE MANDATORY COMPLIANCE FOR THE  
MOTORISTS AND FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS OF  
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC VEHICLES TO USE SEAT BELTS,  
AND TO REQUIRE VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS TO  
DEVISE SEAT BELTS IN ALL THEIR MANUFACTURES  
VEHICLES"**

Senate Bill No. 248, introduced by Senators Osmeña III, Sotto III and Coseteng, entitled:

**"AN ACT  
REQUIRING THE MANDATORY COMPLIANCE FOR THE  
MOTORISTS AND FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS OF  
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC VEHICLES TO USE SEAT BELTS,  
AND TO REQUIRE VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS TO  
DEVISE SEAT BELTS IN ALL THEIR MANUFACTURES  
VEHICLES"**

and Senate Bill No. 695, introduced by Senator Santiago, entitled :

**"AN ACT  
MANDATING THE USE OF SEAT BELTS"**


has considered the same and has the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached S. No. 1137, prepared by the Committee, entitled :

**"AN ACT  
REQUIRING THE MANDATORY COMPLIANCE BY  
MOTORISTS OF PRIVATE AND PUBLIC VEHICLES TO  
USE SEAT BELT DEVICES, AND REQUIRING VEHICLE  
MANUFACTURERS TO INSTALL SEAT BELT DEVICES IN  
ALL THEIR MANUFACTURED VEHICLES"**

be approved in substitution of S. Nos. 69, 248 and 695 with Senators Flavier, Coseteng,

Osmeña III, Santiago and Sotto III as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted :

  
VICENTE C. SOTTO III  
Chairman  
Committee on Public Services

Vice - Chairpersons :

  
JUAN PONCE ENRILE

  
ANNA DOMINIQUE M.L. COSETENG

  
ROBERT S. JAWORSKI

*with amendments*

Members:

*S. No. 69 w/ amendment*  
SERGIO OSMEÑA III

*S. No. 248 w/ amendment*  
TERESA AQUINO-ORETA

*R. No. 69 w/ amendment*  
RAUL S. ROCO

*S. No. 248 w/ amendment*  
ROBERT Z. BARBERS

RAMON B. REVILLA

*R. No. 69 w/ amendment*  
RENATO L. COMPAÑERO CAYETANO

*Juan M. Flavie*  
JUAN M. FLAVIER

Ex - Officio Members :

*Blas F. Ople*  
BLAS F. OPLE  
President Pro-Tempore

*Franklin M. Drilon*  
FRANKLIN M. DRILON  
Majority Leader

*Teofisto T. Guingona Jr. w/ amendments*  
TEOFISTO T. GUINGONA JR. + amendments  
Minority Leader

Hon. MARCELO B. FERNAN  
President  
Senate of the Philippines  
Pasay City

SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES  
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

SBN-1137, entitled:

"AN ACT REQUIRING THE MANDATORY COMPLIANCE BY MOTORISTS OF PRIVATE AND PUBLIC VEHICLES TO USE SEAT BELT DEVICES, AND REQUIRING VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS TO INSTALL SEAT BELT DEVICES IN ALL THEIR MANUFACTURED VEHICLES"

S T A T U S

[ First Regular Session, 11th Congress ]

[ 1998 ]

- Aug. 13 - Conducted committee meetings/hearings;  
20 - Conducted committee meetings/hearings;  
25 - Prepared by the Committee on PUBLIC SERVICES with Senators FLAVIER, COSETENG, SOTTO III, OSMENA III, and SANTIAGO as authors thereof per Committee Report No. 3, recommending its approval in substitution of SBNos. 49, 248 and 695;  
26 - Submitted said report to the Senate;  
- Sponsors: Senators Sotto III, Flavier, Coseteng, Osmena III, and Santiago;  
Sep. 1 - Assigned for consideration by Special Order;  
- Sponsorship speech of Senator Sotto III;  
- Cosponsorship speech of Senator Flavier;  
- Interpellation of Senators Guingona, Jr., Cayetano, Biazon, and Barbers;  
- Senators Cayetano and Barbers were made co-authors as manifested by Senator Sotto III;  
2 - Interpellation of Senators Aquino-Oreta, Revilla, and Roco;  
- Period of interpellation closed;  
- Senators Guingona, Jr. and Revilla were made coauthors as manifested by Senator Sotto III;  
- Upon motion of Senator Drilon, citing Section 59, Rule XXI of the Rules of the Senate, this Bill shall have Senators Flavier, Osmena III, Santiago, Sotto III, Coseteng, Cayetano, Barbers, Guingona, Jr. and Revilla as authors thereof;  
28 - Period of committee amendment closed;  
- Period of individual amendments;  
- Period of individual amendments closed;  
- Approved on Second Reading with amendments;  
29 - Printed copies were distributed to the Senators;  
Oct. 5 - Approved on Third Reading;  
- In favor : (19) Barbers, Biazon, Cayetano, Drilon, Enrile, Fernan, Flavier, Guingona, Jr., Honasan, Jaworski, Legarda-Leviste, Magsaysay, Jr., Ople, Osmena III, Pimentel, Jr., Revilla, Santiago, Sotto III, and Tatad;  
- Against : N o n e;  
- Abstention: N o n e;  
6 - Sent to the House of Representatives requesting for concurrence;

[ 1999 ]

- Mar. 22 - Senate requested the House of Representatives for a conference on the disagreeing provisions of SBN-1137 and HBN-7090, designating Senators Sotto III, Jaworski, Aquino-Oreta, Barbers and Cayetano as its conferees;  
Apr. 19 - House of Representatives agreed to a conference on the disagreeing provisions of both Bills, designating Representatives Tuazon, Paras, Barinaga, Gonzales (R.), Kintanar, Saludo, Jr., Moreno, Zubiri, Albano III and Baculio as its conferees on March 23, 1999;  
27 - House of Representatives designated Representative Herrera as additional member of its panel in the

Conference Committee on April 21, 1999;

- 28 - Senator Flavio was designated as an additional member of its panel in the Conference Committee on motion of Senator Drilon;

- Jun. 1 - Conference Committee Report approved by the House of Representatives on May 24, 1999;  
- House of Representatives reconsidered its approval on the Conference Committee Report on May 25, 1999;  
3 - Sponsorship speech of Senator Sotto III on the Conference Committee report;  
- Conference Committee Report approved by the Senate;  
Jul. 5 - Enrolled copy received by the Senate for signature of the Senate Secretary and Senate President;  
6 - Received by the Office of the President (FLLD);  
14 - Conference Committee Report approved by the House of Representatives on June 2, 1999;  
Aug. 5 - Approved and signed into law by the President of the Philippines;  
- REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8750.

=====

=====

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

'98 AUG 25 P4:26

SENATE  
S. NO. 1137

RECEIVED BY:         

(In Substitution of S. Nos. 69, 248 and 695)

---

Prepared by the Committee on Public Services  
with Senators Flavier, Coseteng, Sotto III, Osmeña III and Santiago as authors

---

**AN ACT**  
**REQUIRING THE MANDATORY COMPLIANCE BY MOTORISTS OF PRIVATE AND**  
**PUBLIC VEHICLES TO USE SEAT BELT DEVICES, AND REQUIRING VEHICLE**  
**MANUFACTURERS TO INSTALL SEAT BELT DEVICES IN ALL THEIR**  
**MANUFACTURED VEHICLES**

*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 "Seat Belts Use Act of  
2       1998."

3       **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to secure  
4       and safeguard its citizenry, particularly the passengers and drivers of private and public vehicles,  
5       from the ruinous and extremely injurious effects of vehicular accidents. Towards this end, the  
6       State shall pursue a more proactive and preventive approach in order to secure the safety of the  
7       passengers and drivers at all times with the mandatory enforcement of the use of seat belt  
8       devices by the drivers and front seat passengers of private and public vehicles.

9       **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** - For purposes of this Act, the term:

10       (a) "*Motorists*" shall refer to the driver and front seat passengers of a motor vehicle.

11       (b) "*Seat Belt Devices*" shall refer to any strap, webbing or similar device in the form  
12       of a combined pelvic restraint or lap belt and upper torso restraint or shoulder strap designed  
13       to secure a person in a motor vehicle in order to mitigate the results of any accident, including  
14       all necessary buckles and other fasteners, and all hardware designed for installing such seat belt  
15       device in a motor vehicle .

1 (c) "*Motor Vehicle*" shall refer to both private vehicle and public utility vehicle. The  
2 term shall not include tricycle and motorcycle.

3 (d) "*Private Vehicle*" shall refer to any vehicle owned privately by individuals and  
4 juridical persons.

5 (e) "*Public Vehicle*" shall refer to a public utility vehicle or a vehicle for hire including  
6 taxi, bus and jeepney.

7 **SEC. 4. *Mandatory Use of Seat Belts.*** - For the safety of the public, the driver and  
8 front seat passengers of a public or private motor vehicle are required to wear or use their seat  
9 belt devices at all times, while driving or riding a vehicle.

10 In the case of public vehicles, the driver shall be required to readily inform and require  
11 the front seat passengers upon boarding to wear the prescribed seat belts. Any passenger who  
12 refuses to wear seat belts shall not be allowed to board the public vehicle.

13 Motor vehicles, both public and private, which are not equipped with the required seat  
14 belt devices, are given one year, from the effectivity of this Act and upon issuance of the  
15 implementing rules and regulations by the Department of Transportation and Communication  
16 (DOTC), to install seat belt devices in their vehicles.

17 **SEC. 5. *Coverage.*** - This Act shall apply to drivers and passengers of public and  
18 private vehicles, namely taxi cabs, vans, cars, pick-up trucks, trucks, buses, jeepneys and other  
19 motor vehicles as may be recommended by the DOTC for inclusion in the interest of public  
20 safety.

21 **SEC. 6. *Provisions for Seat Belt.*** - This Act further requires car manufacturers,  
22 assemblers and distributors to ensure that seat belt devices are installed and lodged in all their  
23 manufactured and assembled vehicles before the distribution of the said vehicles to the general  
24 public.

25 **SEC. 7. *Type of Seat Belt Devices Required.*** - The seat belt devices required to be  
26 installed in all motor vehicles shall comply with the standards and specifications established by  
27 the Bureau of Product Standards of the Department of Trade and Industry.



1           **SEC. 8. *Registration.*** - No motor vehicle shall be allowed to register or renew its  
2 registration unless it is equipped with the necessary seat belt devices. For this purpose, the  
3 DOTC shall include in the implementing guidelines a system of vehicle registration where  
4 compliance with Section 4 hereof shall be made a prerequisite for registration: *Provided, That*  
5 the seat belt devices installed in imported second-hand motor vehicles shall be inspected and  
6 checked for compliance with the set standards and specifications of the Bureau of Product  
7 Standards for purposes of registration.

8           **SEC. 9. *Period of Implementation.*** - (a) The DOTC shall be the agency primarily  
9 responsible in the enforcement and implementation of this Act. Within sixty (60) days from the  
10 effectivity of this Act, the DOTC, in coordination with the Land Transportation Office (LTO),  
11 Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), Philippine National Police  
12 (PNP) and Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), shall formulate and issue the  
13 necessary implementing rules, regulations and guidelines and shall mobilize available resources  
14 to assure the effective implementation of this Act.

15           (b) The DOTC, in coordination with the LTO, LTFRB, PNP, MMDA and other  
16 government agencies, shall decide on the transitional period for the full implementation of this  
17 Act, but in no case longer than two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act.

18           **SEC. 10. *Penalties and Fines.*** - In the enforcement of this Act, the DOTC shall  
19 include in the implementing guidelines a system of ensuring compliance with the provisions of  
20 this Act, particularly through the imposition of fines: (1) on the driver (a) for failure to wear  
21 the prescribed seat belt devices; or (b) for failure to inform and require the front seat passengers  
22 of a private vehicle, or public utility vehicle, to wear seat belt devices; and (2) on any  
23 manufacturer, assembler, importer and distributor for every unit found to be not installed with  
24 seat belt devices prior to its distribution to the public.

25           **SEC. 11. *Nationwide Public Information Campaign.*** - (a) The DOTC, in coordination  
26 with the Land Transportation Office (LTO), Philippine Information Agency (PIA), Department  
27 of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) and private agencies and organizations shall undertake

1 a regular nationwide Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns for the  
2 attainment of the objectives of this Act. The publicity campaigns shall stress the safety and  
3 health value of safety belts to support the active participatory enforcement of the belt law.

4 (b) The DOTC, in coordination with the Local Government Units, shall likewise utilize  
5 the services of citizen groups and community organizations for the promotion of public safety  
6 awareness in observance of this Act.

7 (c) The fines that will be collected for the enforcement of this Act shall be used  
8 exclusively for the implementation of the provisions of this Act, including the necessary  
9 promotion campaigns for the use of seat belt devices.

10 **SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provisions, or part hereof, is held invalid or  
11 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain  
12 valid and subsisting.

13 **SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.*** - Republic Act No. 4136, Article IV, Section 34 is hereby  
14 amended and any law, executive order, decree, issuance, ordinance, rule or regulation or parts  
15 thereof contrary or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is also hereby repealed, modified  
16 or amended accordingly.

17 **SEC. 14. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
18 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,