

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3976



Introduced by Honorable Mark O. Cojuangco

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to standardize the implementation of Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) systems in all tollways and expressways in the Philippines.

The ETC is a technology that allows for electronic payment of toll fees through the use of vehicle-to-roadside communication equipment. The system performs an electronic monetary transaction between a vehicle passing through a toll station and the toll facility operator without the need for motorists to stop, fumble for change or roll down their car windows. Thus, ETC systems allow toll facility operators to improve customer service and satisfaction, minimize vehicle congestion at toll plazas and reduce toll collection costs.

In august 2000, the first and only ETC in the Philippines was implemented in the South Luzon Expressway. The automated collection process is accomplished through the use of "E-PASS", an on-board transponder that communicates with in-lane ETC equipment. When a customer with an E-PASS transponder approaches the toll lane, the in-

lane equipment reads the transponder number and validates the status of the transponder which causes the gate to rise so that the customer can pass through. With this latest proven cost-effective technique on toll collection, records show that approximately 300,000 vehicles use the 30-mile ETC system daily.

The proposed measure shall regulate the use of ETC systems among different tollway facility operators. This means that different types of transponders should be able to communicate with the same roadside readers and that a single transponder could also be used across multiple ETC systems. The bill requires different operators to use compatible technologies and procedures so that toll charges made on one system can be conveniently deducted on another system's account. More motorists who travel frequently on the toll facility will benefit from ETC because fewer cars and trucks will remain and thus, idle at a toll plaza. Fuel emissions are reduced. Vehicles equipped with ETC transponders need not fall in line to pay toll fees.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



MARK O. COJUANGCO

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**AN ACT
REGULATING THE USE OF ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTION
(ETC) SYSTEMS IN ALL TOLLWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS IN
THE PHILIPPINES.**

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the “Electronic Toll Collection System Act of 2005.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*— It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote efficiency and viability of the toll facilities in the North Luzon and South Luzon Expressways. Towards this end, the State shall promote the installation of Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) technologies through the implementation of a uniform and standardized E-PASS electronic toll collection system which shall be accepted throughout the Philippines wherever electronic pass (E-PASS) signs are posted in all tollways and expressways.



SEC. 3. *The Toll Regulatory Board (TRB).* – In addition to the powers and functions as provided in Presidential Decree No. 1112, the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) shall perform the following powers and functions.

a) Regulate the implementation of electronic toll collection system in all tollways and expressways throughout the Philippines; and

b) Require the different tollway facility operators to coordinate and develop the use of compatible ETC technologies and procedures subject to the conditions which shall be imposed in the TRB Standards document.

SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Chairman of the TRB shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, proclamations, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,

