

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1813

Introduced by Representatives
DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO and GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

AN ACT
REGULATING THE USE OF MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLES IN
RESIDENTIAL AREAS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Noise or sound pollution refers to any exposure of people or animals to sound levels that are annoying, stressful, or damaging to a person's ears. Although loud and frightening sounds are part of nature, only in recent years has much of the world become urban, industrial, and chronically noisy. The most significant health risk posed by noise pollution is hearing loss. Any noise appreciably louder than talking can damage the delicate hair cells in the cochlea, the structure in the inner ear that converts sound waves into auditory nerve signals. The initial damage to the cochlea may be temporary, but with repeated exposure, the damage becomes permanent. Even at levels below those that cause hearing loss, noise pollution produces other problems. Most notably, noise causes difficulty in conversations; it interferes with sleep and negatively impacts certain kinds of work. As a source of stress, it can also contribute to high blood pressure and other cardiovascular problems, as well as nervous disorders.

Most noise pollution come from machines, especially trucks, automobiles, and aircraft. This Bill aims to address one of these by regulating the use of automobiles in residential areas and the noise that they produce. The proponents of this Bill hope that this initial step will at least mitigate the pernicious effects of noise pollution.

It is in this light that the approval of this measure is earnestly requested.


DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District, Camarines Sur


GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District, Pampanga

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Motor Vehicle Noise Regulation Act of 2010."

SECTION 2. *Regulation of the use of motor vehicles.* – It shall be unlawful for any person to unreasonably operate any motor driven vehicle upon any property within a residential area or to unreasonably accelerate the engine of any vehicle, or unreasonably sound, blow or operate the horn or other warning device of such vehicle between the hours of 8:00 p.m. of one day and 8:00 a.m. of the next day in such manner:

- (a) As to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of any neighborhood or of any reasonable person residing in such area;
- (b) That such activity is audible to the human ear at a distance in excess of 150 feet from the property line of the noise source;
- (c) As to create any noise which would cause the noise level on the premises of any occupied residential property, or if a

condominium, apartment house or duplex, within any adjoining unit, to exceed the ambient noise level by more than five (5) decibels.

SECTION 3. *Exception.* – This shall not be applicable to any vehicle which is operated upon any public highway, street or right-of-way or to the operation of any off-highway vehicle, or to any emergency situation requiring the commission of any of the prohibited activities.

SECTION 4. *Penalties.* – Any person found to violate this Act shall be fined an amount of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00).

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,