

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3741

Introduced by **Hon. Joselito R. Mendoza**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The dismal traffic situation in our major thoroughfares is a perennial problem hounding our transportation system. The government has implemented various traffic management solutions such as the color coding, installation of yellow lines, legally affirmed RFID and other combinations of approaches and yet, heavy traffic has not been alleviated and continues to ensue everyday.

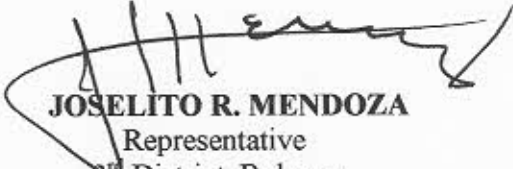
One of the major factors that contribute to this problem is the presence of thousands of illegally-operating public utility buses and jeepneys, or "colorum" vehicles. Efforts implemented by the government to purge the streets of these vehicles from the sticker system to the recently implemented Unified Vehicular Volume Reduction Plan (UVVRP) to the random checking of PUVS streets have also been ineffective. Exacerbating this problem is the lack of base data in the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) needed to implement effective management schemes such as an accurate listing and count of colorum buses and jeepneys, and estimates of volume loads per major thoroughfare. This is aggravated by the compounded manner of vehicle inventory LTFRB has been used to.

According to the LTFRB, there are a total of 12,700 legitimate bus franchises - 5,332 for Metro Manila routes and 7,368 for provincial routes- and 60,844 legitimate jeepney franchises. Currently, there is no clear estimate on the number of colorum buses and jeepneys presently in operation nor a count on how many have been apprehended.

However, related studies of the LTFRB and of the the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) entitled "EDSA Bus Route Revalidation Survey" showed a clear discrepancy in the official and non-official counts of the volume of bus units that pass through EDSA daily. The discrepancy totaling to 1,200 units was attributed to the number of colorum buses unaccounted for by the LTFRB. The LTFRB study showed an estimate of 3,800 units and the JICA study 5,000 units. On August 2010, the MMDA and LTFRB pegged their **estimates** at 2,000 colorum buses.

In lieu of the situation, this bill seeks to revoke all existing franchises of public utility buses and jeepneys to empower the LTFRB by giving them the capability to grant new franchises and set new franchise fees with the end in view of removing all colorum public utility vehicles from the National Capital Region.

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


JOSELITO R. MENDOZA
Representative
3rd District, Bulacan

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AN ACT
REVOKING ALL EXISTING FRANCHISES GRANTED TO OPERATORS OF PUBLIC
UTILITY BUSES AND JEEPNEY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. All existing franchises of public utility buses and jeepneys are hereby revoked.

SECTION 2. The Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the grant of new franchises under an updated fees and schedules, within sixty (60) days upon approval of this Act.

SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* - The provisions of all other laws, decrees, orders, rules or regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,