

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 3769

Introduced by REP. NERI JAVIER COLMENARES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

AN ACT
PROHIBITING THE USE AND INSTALLATION OF BRIGHT WHITE
HEADLIGHTS OR HEADLAMPS CLASSIFIED AS HIGH INTENSITY DISCHARGE
(HID) HEADLAMPS IN MOTOR VEHICLES

In the 2008 Department of Health statistics, road accident is listed as the fourth leading cause of death in our country. Road accidents usually happen at night or in dim environment where there is poor visibility. In these instances, vehicles use their headlights or headlamps to provide visibility. The problem being addressed by this bill is the threat to road safety posed by the use of non-standard headlights, particularly bright and glaring white lights by vehicles that uses HID or high intensity discharge headlamps. The use of these HID headlamps in vehicles, including the refitting of tungsten-halogen headlamps to HID headlamps, is not in consonance with traffic safety standards. The HID headlamp produces excessively bright white lights and the glare can distract drivers of approaching vehicles and may result in serious accidents endangering other vehicles and pedestrians.

The use of HID headlamp also causes inconvenience to the drivers or passengers of other vehicles due to the excessive glare coming from these headlamps. Many countries have prohibited or regulated the use of these headlamps precisely in response to the threat to road safety posed by its use.

This legislation aims to reduce the cases of road accidents and enhance road safety and convenience by prohibiting the use or installation of bright white headlights classified as HID or Xenon headlamps and imposing stiffer penalties for such use or installation.

In the interest of road safety, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

Approved,


NERI JAVIER COLMENARES
Bayan Muna Party-List

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

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as "An Act Prohibiting the Use of High Intensity Discharge (HID) Headlamps".

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to ensure traffic safety and protect the lives of drivers and pedestrians.

Section 3. Definition

- (i) **Headlamp and/or Headlight** - is a lamp attached to the front of a vehicle to illuminate the road ahead during periods of low visibility, darkness, or precipitation and the light emitted by the same. For purposes of this Act headlamp and headlight shall be given the same meaning.
- (ii) **High Intensity Discharge (HID) Headlamp**, sometimes called "xenon headlights", is a headlamp or headlight that produces HID light through an electric arc from metallic salt.

Section 4. Prohibition. The use or installation of High Intensity Discharge (HID) headlamp or headlights in a motor vehicle, or the selling of a motor vehicle fitted with the same shall be prohibited.

Section 5. Penalty. - Any person or entity selling motor vehicles in violation of this Act shall be fined with One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 100,000.00) for every sale of a vehicle fitted with the headlamp prohibited under Section 4 of this Act. The registered car owner and the person driving a motor vehicle installed with or using the prohibited HID headlamp shall each be fined with Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) for every violation of this Act.

Section 6. Implementing Agencies. -The Land Transportation Office (LTO) shall be the main implementing agency of this Act.

Section 7. Separability Clause. - If any portion or provision of the Act is declared void or unconstitutional, the remaining portions or provisions hereof shall not be affected by such declaration.

Section 8. Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree, executive issuances, rules and regulations, administrative order inconsistent herewith is hereby repealed, revoked or modified accordingly.

Section 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect **SIXTY DAYS** (60) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,