

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **4037**

Introduced by **Honorable Carmelo F. Lazatin**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

With the introduction of Legislative Act No. 2159 around 1912, earliest license plates for registered vehicles were introduced to regulate and provide regulation and licensing of operators for motor vehicles in the Philippine. This was the first formal law on land transportation in the country, which eventually created the Automobile Section under the Administrative Division of the Bureau of Public Works.

This will be the predecessor office of the now known Land Transportation Office (LTO), which is under the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC). It is tasked to rationalize the land transportation service and facilities and to implement effectively the various transportation laws, rules and regulations. Among the mandate and main functions of the LTO include enforcement of land transportation rules and regulations; adjudication of traffic cases; collection of revenues for the government; inspection and registration of motor vehicles and issuance of licenses and permits. As part of this mandate, vehicle license plates in the Philippines are issued and regulated by the LTO. However, only certain types of vehicles are subject to registration which does not include vehicles such as golf carts and all-purpose vehicles.

With the increasing popularity of such vehicles, which are primarily utilized in places of recreation such as golf courses among others, they are also subject to theft, just like any other valuable properties, or improper use that may result to harm such as accidents or perhaps traffic problems.

Hence, this bill seeks to register all golf carts and all-purpose vehicles under the LTO to prevent unauthorized and improper utilization of such vehicles that may result to damages and as well as to protect and promote the rights and privileges of the owners against theft, among others.

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


CARMELO F. LAZATIN
First District, Pangasinana

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**AN ACT REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION OF GOLF CARTS AND ALL-PURPOSE VEHICLES UNDER
THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO)**

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known and cited as the “Golf Carts and APV Registration Act.”.

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the declared policy of the State to safeguard the welfare of motorists and pedestrians alike including vehicle owners by requiring the registration of golf carts and APVs and to prevent improper utilization of such vehicles that may result to damages and as well as to protect and promote the rights and privileges of the owners against theft, among others.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act the term:

- “Golf carts” refers to small vehicles designed originally to carry two golfers and their golf clubs around a golf course; and
- “APV or All-purpose vehicle” refers to any self-propelled vehicle steered by wheels or caterpillar treads, or a combination of both designed primarily for cross-country travel on land and water or on more than one type of terrain. It includes vehicles known as all-terrain vehicles, all-season vehicles, mini-bikes, trail bikes and vehicles that operate on a cushion of air.

SECTION 4 *Enforcement of the Act.* – The Land Transportation Office (LTO) of the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) shall be tasked to enforce this Act. It shall formulate guidelines for the inclusion of the said vehicles in the roster of vehicles subject to registration. It shall also designate a particular vehicle plate designation or classification. The LTO shall also consider if the vehicles are locally manufactured or not, similar to the current list of vehicles subject to registration under this office.

SECTION 5 *Public and Private Vehicles*-All golf carts and APV's utilized for business purposes such as those in commercial golf courses, areas of recreations and those utilized for any commercial purposes such as renting shall be categorized as public vehicles while personal vehicles intended for any private use

whether for one or more persons shall be considered as private vehicles for as long as they are not utilized for commercial purposes or not owned by commercial areas of recreation, golf courses and other similar establishments or areas.

SECTION 6 *Separability Clause*. – If any provisions or part hereof, is invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 7 *Repealing Clause*. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule of regulation contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8 *Effectivity Clause*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,