

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

**FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session**

House Bill No. 4362

Introduced by the Honorable Jeci A. Lapus

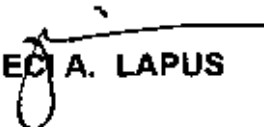
EXPLANATORY NOTE

One of the major economic problems of the country is smuggling of imported vehicles despite the existence of PD no. 1464, otherwise known as Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines and Executive Order no. 156 "prohibiting the importation of imported vehicles". The government is deprived of revenues and affects the rate of employment because of illegal entry of imported vehicles in our local market.

The occurrence of registration of imported vehicles without clearances from the Bureau of Customs and Bureau of Internal Revenue remain unabated despite existing laws. The perpetrators were able to register these vehicles with the Land Transportation Office without said clearances or with clearances tainted with irregularities. The irregular and anomalous registration of motor vehicles takes place due to inadequate laws that will respond to advancing methodology in registration processes.

This bill seeks to squarely address the problem of smuggling of imported vehicles and the activities of unscrupulous individuals in registering imported vehicles with the end view of circumventing existing laws to the detriment of the government.

In view of the foregoing, the early passage of this proposed measure is earnestly sought.


JECI A. LAPUS

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AN ACT
PENALIZING REGISTRATION OF IMPORTED VEHICLES WITHOUT PROPER
CLEARANCES FROM THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS AND BUREAU OF
INTERNAL REVENUE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE

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

Section 1. Registration. Imported vehicles, not prohibited under Executive Order No. 156, maybe registered with the Land Transportation Office when accompanied with appropriate import documentation and proof of payment of taxes and duties issued by the Bureau of Customs and Bureau of Internal Revenue;

The certificate of payments shall be duly annotated in the Certification of Registration to be issued by the Land Transportation Office;

Section 2. Penal Provisions. Any person who violates any provisions of this Act shall be punished with imprisonment for not less than two years nor more than six years and a fine equal in amount to the fair market value of the motor vehicle: *Provided, That if the person violating any provision of this Act is a juridical person, the penalty herein provided shall be imposed on its president or secretary and/or members of the board of directors or any of its officers and employees who may have directly participated in the violation.*

Any government official or employee who directly commits the unlawful acts defined in this Act or is guilty of gross negligence of duty or connives with or permits the commission of any of the said unlawful act shall, in addition to the penalty prescribed in the preceding paragraph, be dismissed from the service with prejudice to his reinstatement and with disqualification from voting or being voted for in any election and from appointment to any public office.

Section 3. *Punishment for other offenses.* - The conviction of any person for any offense under this Act shall not bar his prosecution for any other offense which may have been committed by such person concurrently with the commission of the offense of which he was convicted or in doing the act or series of acts which constituted the offense of which he was convicted.

Section 4. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified or amended accordingly.

Section 5. *Effectivity.*-This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,