

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez and
Representative Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr.

House Bill No. **4500**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the operations of the Highway Patrol Group (HPG) in Zamboanga del Norte since late 2010 until February 2011, fifteen carnapped vehicles have already been recovered.

Majority of the recovered vehicles are vehicles that were reportedly carnapped in Luzon.

This is an example of the new modus of these carnapping syndicates. All the stolen vehicles from Metro Manila are transported to different provinces all over the country to prevent detection.

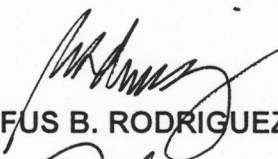
According to the HPG, their intelligence reports confirmed the modus operandi of carnapping syndicates catering to the demands of their wealthy clients in the provinces.

The operations starts when a client would order a certain model of a car to the carnapping syndicate which in turn would steal it in Metro Manila and later being delivered to the client. The registration is being facilitated by erring Land Transportation Office personnel in the province. The transport of these carnapped vehicles are made easier because of promotion of the "Philippine Nautical Highway" under then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Because of the Philippine Nautical Highway, transport of stolen vehicles is now made easier. Data from the HPG show that since 2005, at least 300 cars stolen in Luzon were recovered in different parts of Mindanao.

It is high time that measures enacted to help curb this practice.

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


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ


MAXIMO B. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

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AN ACT

REQUIRING VEHICLE OWNERS TO SECURE CLEARANCES FIRST FROM THE PNP HIGHWAY PATROL GROUP (HPG) BEFORE THEY COULD BRING THEIR VEHICLES TO DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE PHILIPPINES ON BOARD SEA VESSELS

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

SECTION 1. It is hereby mandated that vehicle owners would have to secure clearance first from the Philippine National Police (PNP) Highway Patrol Group (HPG) before they could transport their vehicle to different provinces all over the Philippines on board sea vessels.

SEC. 2. The PNP HPG shall set-up an express desk in all their offices all over the Philippines for the issuance of the required clearance, within 24 hours from the time of request, free of charge after confirming that the person planning to transport the vehicle is the owner of said vehicle and that the vehicle is not stolen.

The PNP HPG is hereby mandated to have a computerized list of all reported carnapped vehicles all over the country which shall be updated real time once a report of carnapping is received.

SEC. 3. Penal Provisions – Any person or officer who refuses to issue the clearance in the time prescribed or who issues a clearance despite the vehicle being carnapped or if the shipper is not the owner of the vehicle shall be liable for imprisonment from one (1) to two (2) years and a fine ranging from Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000) to Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000).

SEC. 4. Appropriations – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the budget of the Philippine National Police as provided for in the General Appropriations Act of this year. Thereafter, the sum necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of Philippine National Police.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations – The PNP HPG shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. *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.

SEC. 7. *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.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity Clause* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,