

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1226



Introduced by: HON. MAXIMO B. DALOG

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to stop the collection of fees from passengers for the use of the comfort rooms and service facilities in bus terminals/bus stations, bus stops and rest areas.

Article 1755 of the New Civil Code of the Philippines states that a common carrier is bound to carry the passengers safely as far as human care and foresight can provide, using the utmost diligence of very cautious persons, with a due regard for all the circumstances.

In addition, Presidential Decree No. 856 otherwise known as the "Code on Sanitation," states as one of its basis, the need of providing for an adequate number of rest areas for passengers of public and private conveyances plying the highways to cater to the comfort and personal convenience and needs of travellers.

The maintenance of these comfort rooms and service facilities is part of the services for human care of common carriers. Thus, additional payment for maintenance of these facilities should not be imposed on the riding public. In addition, the collection of fees for the use of comfort rooms and service facilities is an added burden to riding public; hence, making travel within the country more expensive.

For the benefit of the riding public who patronize these common carriers, the collection of fees from the passengers using the comfort rooms and service facilities in the bus terminals/bus stations, bus stops and rest areas should be stopped immediately.

Considering the beneficial effects to the riding public, approval of the Bill is immediately sought.


MAXIMO B. DALOG

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**AN ACT PROHIBITING THE COLLECTION OF FEES FROM
PASSENGERS FOR THE USE OF THE COMFORT ROOMS AND SERVICE
FACILITIES LOCATED IN THE BUS TERMINALS/ BUS STATIONS, BUS
STOPS AND REST AREAS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES**

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

Sec. 1. Definition of Terms. As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- 1.1 BUS TERMINAL/BUS STATION- a passenger station and a place for the final stopover or a permanent station, office and yard of buses, which may also serve as loading and unloading area for passengers.
- 1.2 BUS STOP- a common place for the stopover of buses located along the highways or regular route for transport in long travel.
- 1.3 REST AREA- a facility located at strategic point along the national highway or route of the travelling public which is provided with parking space, restaurants or snack bars, other business shops, recreational facilities, service stations, public restroom facilities or waiting sheds for travellers or commuters.
- 1.4 SERVICE FACILITIES- part of bus terminal/bus station that refers to the sanitary facilities, washing bays, parking areas, repair stations.

Sec. 3. It shall be unlawful for bus companies, bus operators and owners of bus terminals/bus stations, bus stops and rest areas to collect fees

from passengers for the use of the comfort rooms and service facilities located in the premises thereof.

Sec. 4. *Penal Provision.* Any person who shall violate the provisions of this Law shall be guilty of misdemeanour and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding Six months or by a fine of not less than One Thousand Pesos (P1000.00) but not more than Ten Thousand pesos (P10, 000. 00) for each violation.

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

Approved,