

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH (16TH) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3767**



Introduced by Hon. Lorna Q. Velasco

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The public land transportation system is impressed with public interest and as such the highest quality of service, responsibility, accountability and safety must be demanded from the operators, owners and drivers of public utility vehicles (PUVs).

This bill seeks to require the mandatory posting and installation of laminated display cards, bearing essential information about the driver, operator and vehicle, inside all public utility vehicles (PUVs) in order to enhance the safety and protection of the riding public.

The importance and necessity of safe transportation nationwide cannot be overemphasized. However, this is being undermined by an alarming number of crimes and abuses perpetuated against them. It is a lamentable fact that in some cases the driver himself/herself is involved in the commission of these crimes. Also, a number of PUVs are being used as an instrument to commit unlawful acts on a daily basis.

Thus, the measures found in this bill must be institutionalized to protect the riding public.

The purpose of this bill, which requires the posting of important information about the driver, operator and vehicle inside PUVs, visible to the passenger, is to deter would be rogue elements from abusing and preying on commuters and further seeks to criminalize/penalize the failure of public transport operators, owners and drivers to comply with the provisions of this bill. The information will certainly empower the passengers and will ease the process of reporting abuses and crimes committed against them by erring public transport operators and/or their agents.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is hereby being earnestly sought.

Lorna Q. Velasco
LORNA Q. VELASCO

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AN
ACT REQUIRING THE POSTING/INSTALLATION OF LAMINATED DISPLAY
CARDS, CONTAINING THE DRIVER'S, OPERATOR'S AND VEHICLE'S
INFORMATION, INSIDE ALL PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES (PUVs) FOR THE
BENEFIT OF PASSENGERS AND RIDING PUBLIC TO ENHANCE THEIR SAFETY
AND PROTECTION

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

Section 1. *Short Title* – This act shall be known as “Public Utility Vehicles Transparency Act of 2014”

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy* – It is thereby declared the policy of the State to afford protection and ensure the safety of its citizens, particularly the passengers of public transport services and vehicles, from risk of abuse, theft, robbery and other criminal acts. Towards this end, the State shall mandate the posting/installation of laminated display cards, containing the driver's, operator's and vehicle's information, inside all public utility vehicles (PUVs) for the benefit of passengers and riding public to enhance their safety and protection.

Section 3. *Definition of Terms* – As used in this Act:

- a. “Passenger” refers to any fare paying person being transported and conveyed in and by public utility vehicles (PUVs) for transportation of passengers for compensation;
- b. “Public utility vehicle” refers to a motor vehicle, a taxicab, public utility jeep (PUJ), public utility bus (PUB), public utility tricycle (PUT), asian utility vehicle (AUV) and pedicab used to transport passengers from their point of origin to their destination;

- c. "Operator" refers to any person who has been issued a Certificate of Public Convenience by the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) to operate a public transport service for compensation and for a covered period of time; and
- d. "Laminated Display Card" refers to a laminated card/poster sufficiently large enough and its contents visible enough for the passenger to see, containing essential and important information about the driver, operator and vehicle.

Section 4. *Mandatory Posting/Installation of Laminated Display Card* – All operators and drivers of public utility vehicles (PUVs), without exception, shall be required to produce or acquire a laminated display card containing all necessary information enumerated in Section five (5) of this Act and thereafter cause it to be posted or displayed conspicuously inside the PUV, visible and readable to all passengers thereof.

The standard size of the laminated display card; materials to be used; font, color and size of the letters; and the place/places where the cards will be posted respectively per type of PUV shall be defined in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to be formulated by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) and Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB).

Section 5. *Content of Laminated Display Card* – The laminated display card shall include all the following information:

- a. Complete name and contact number of driver;
- b. Driver's picture;
- c. Driver's license number and date of expiration;
- d. Complete name and contact number of operator or owner;
- e. Plate number of PUV;
- f. Body number of PUV (whenever applicable);
- g. Certificate of public convenience License number;
- h. Authorized route as reflected in PUVs certificate of public convenience (whenever applicable)
- i. LTFRB hotline/contact number

Section 6. *Updating of Information* – It shall be the responsibility of the operators and drivers of PUVs to keep the information displayed/reflected on the laminated cards updated and accurate at all times.

Section 7. *Period of Implementation* – The LTO and LTFRB shall be the agencies primarily responsible in the enforcement and implementation of this Act. Within sixty

(60) days from the effectivity of this Act the LTO and LTFRB shall formulate and issue the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) and guidelines and shall mobilize available resources to assure the effective implementation of this Act.

Section 8. *Penalties and Fines* – It is hereby declared unlawful for any PUV driver or operator/owner to operate without the required laminated display card. It shall be unlawful, as well, if such laminated display card contains false information or is not posted in a place within the PUV not visible/readable for all passengers of subject PUV.

Both the driver and operator/owner of the PUV found guilty in violation of this Act shall suffer the following fines and penalties:

- a. First Offense – Fine of Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000) each;
- b. Second Offense – Fine of Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50, 000) each and the suspension of the PUV's franchise and driver's license.

In addition to the above fines and penalties, when the operator and/or driver is found to be operating/driving a PUV without a valid license or franchise or violating any other traffic law or ordinance, an additional fine of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10, 000) shall be charged to violators.

The fines and penalties imposed under this Act shall be without prejudice to the prosecution of any other offenses or violations committed by the driver and/or operator.

Section 9. *Separability Clause*. - Any portion or provisions of this Act that may be declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions or provisions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

Section 10. *Repealing Clause*. - All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 11. *Effectivity* – This act shall take effect fifteen days (15) after publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,