

Sixteenth Congress  
Republic of the Philippines  
2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session



Introduced by  
**HON. SAMUEL D. PAGDILAO, JR.**

HOUSE BILL NO. **5271**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It was recently reported that a parked police car was wrecked by a bus driver who allegedly fell asleep while in transit along EDSA Balintawak, Quezon City. The bus driver claims that he was extremely tired and exhausted for driving 24 hours when the accident occurred. Unfortunately, four policemen were injured in this incident.

Driver fatigue is among the leading causes of potentially fatal road accidents in the Philippines. In other countries, daily driving hours are specifically limited as a safety measure against fatigue-related accidents. For instance, the United States Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration mandates a maximum daily driving limit of 10 to 11 hours. Also, the European Commission requires drivers to observe a daily driving limit of 9 to 10 hours only. Upon implementation of these driving limits, these countries saw reduced numbers of fatigue-related road accidents.

Similarly, our Country should also address these fatigue-related road accidents. By requiring daily driving limits, we will reduce the likelihood of driver fatigue and consequently, fatigue-related crashes. This would mean significantly safer roads and hiways in the Philippines.

Hence, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
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**AN ACT  
PROVIDING DAILY DRIVING LIMITS FOR TRUCKS, BUSES  
AND OTHER PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES**

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

**Section 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Daily Driving Limit Act of 2014”

**Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote road safety and to protect its citizens by reducing the likelihood of road accidents caused by driver fatigue. Towards this end, the State shall provide measures that will enforce a uniform daily driving limit for Trucks, Buses, and Other Public Utility Vehicles.

**Section 3. Vehicles covered.** – Trucks, Buses and Other Motorized Vehicles classified as Public Utility Vehicles covered by Certificates of Public Convenience issued by the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board shall be required to observe the daily driving limit under this Act.

**Section 4. Daily Driving Limit.** – The driving limit shall be nine (9) hours for each 24-hour period. However, the daily driving time may be extended to at most ten (10) hours not more than twice during a week.

**Section 5. Mandatory Rest Period.** - After driving a continuous period of four and a half (4 & 1/2) hours a driver shall take an uninterrupted break of not less than thirty (30) minutes. This mandatory rest period shall not be included in the computation of the daily driving limit.

**Section 6. Duty of driver to Record Duty Status** - Every driver who operates a motor vehicle covered under this Act shall record his duty status, in writing, for each 24-hour period. The duty status shall provide the following information:

- (a.) Date;
- (b.) Name of Driver;
- (c.) Motor Vehicle License Plate;
- (d.) Name of Operator/Owner/Company, if any;
- (e.) 24-hour period starting time;
- (f.) Total kilometers driving today;
- (g.) Total Hours Driving;
- (h.) Signature of Driver.

While on duty, the driver shall retain a copy of each record of duty status for the previous 7 consecutive days which shall be in his possession and available for inspection by traffic enforcers. The owner or operator of the motor vehicle, if any, shall likewise keep a copy of each record of duty status for the previous 7 consecutive days available for inspection.

**Section 7. Exceptions.** - In case of any emergency, such as but not limited to adverse weather conditions or riots where the life or health of the driver or any other natural person is in danger, the driver is permitted to continue driving in excess of the daily driving limit until he reaches a safe location.

**Section 7. Prohibited Acts; Penalties.** -

(a.) The penalty of imprisonment from *one (1) month to six (6) months* or a fine amounting of *one hundred thousand pesos (Php100,000.00)* or both shall be imposed upon a driver of a motor vehicle covered under this Act who fails to observe the daily driving limit and mandatory rest period, fails to complete the record of duty status, fails to preserve a record of such duty status for inspection, or makes false statements in such duty status.

The same penalty shall be imposed upon the operator or owner of a motor vehicle covered under this Act who fails to preserve a record of such duty status for inspection.

(b.) The penalty of imprisonment from *six (6) months to one (1) year* or a fine amounting to *two hundred thousand pesos (Php200,000.00)* or both shall be imposed upon the operator or owner of a motor vehicle covered under this Act who orders or requires his driver to drive in excess of the daily driving limit.

**Section 8. Rules and Regulations.** - The Department of Transportation and Communication together with its attached agencies, the Land Transportation Office, and the Land Transportation Franchising Regulatory Board, shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

**Section 9. Separability Clause.** - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

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

**Section 11. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.