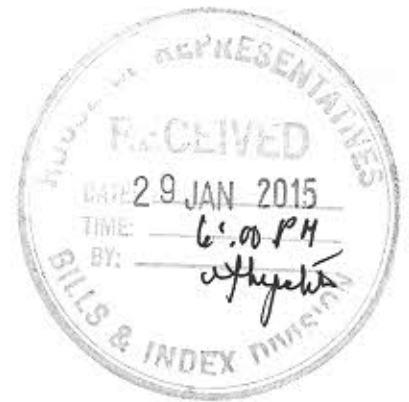


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 5380



Introduced by Representative ESTRELLITA "GING" B. SUANSING

EXPLANATORY NOTE

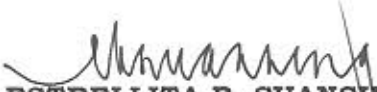
It is almost every day that we hear about road traffic accidents reported by the media, involving public transport vehicles and trucks, some of which would have been highly preventable had the person behind the wheel practiced road courtesy and showed discipline while driving. Sadly however, many of those privileged to drive display a lack thereof, leading to everyday traffic jams and altercations.

On 2012, there is an average of 227 road accidents per day according to the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority; most traffic accidents involve common carriers and professional drivers (drivers hired or paid for driving or operating a motor vehicle for private use or for hire).

This proposed measure aims to establish and institutionalize a program intended to promote road safety by requiring professional drivers to go through a mandatory driver's education and road safety program. This will help promote professionalism in the industry, instill in the drivers discipline while on the road, and provide commuters and the general public more safeguard against unskilled and reckless drivers.

Another salient feature of this bill is the accreditation of professional drivers from the Land Transportation Office, with the Certificate of Completion of a Professional Driver's Education and Road Safety Program as one of the requirements for accreditation.

In view of the above, early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING

1st District, Nueva Ecija

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 5380

Introduced by Representative ESTRELLITA “GING” B. SUANSING

AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS TO UNDERGO DRIVER’S
EDUCATION AND ROAD SAFETY PROGRAM, PROVIDING FOR THEIR
ACCREDITATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Short title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Professional Driver’s Education Act.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to maintain peace and order, protect life, liberty, and property, and promote the general welfare for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.

The State upholds the safety of commuters and the general public. Towards this end, the State shall ensure that public transport operators and drivers, most notably professional drivers, are adequately trained in safe driving techniques.

SECTION 3. *Professional Driver’s Education and Road Safety Program.* – The Land Transportation Office (LTO) shall:

- (a) Develop and implement a nationwide Professional Driver’s Education and Road Safety Program. All drivers in the public transportation industry applying for a professional driver’s

license, as well as professional drivers applying for the renewal of their license, must, as a prerequisite, enroll in this program. Once the driver has passed this program, the LTO shall issue a certification to the driver bearing such information;

- (b) Collect and analyze data on vehicular accidents and other information than can be used to monitor the effectivity of the program and for research, technical assistance, and policy development.
- (c) Provide continuous information and awareness campaigns to the target drivers and the general public on transportation safety issues.

SECTION 4. *Participants of the Professional Driver's Education and Road Safety Program.* – The application for a professional driver's license and renewal of the same shall require completion of the Professional Driver's Education and Road Safety Program for drivers in the following industries:

- (a) Provincial and city bus operations;
- (b) Public utility jeepneys;
- (c) Taxi cabs;
- (d) Public shuttles and van services.

SECTION 5. *Accreditation of Professional Drivers.* – There shall be an accreditation of professional drivers to be implemented by the Land Transportation Office (LTO), after meeting the following requirements:

- (a) Valid professional driver's license;
- (b) Certificate of Completion of a Professional Driver's Education and Road Safety Program issued by the LTO;
- (c) Neuro-psychiatric clearance with Official Receipt from LTO accredited or government physician;
- (d) Negative drug test result from a DOH accredited drug testing center or government hospital;
- (e) NBI clearance.

SECTION 6. *Renewal of Accreditation of Professional Drivers.* – The renewal of accreditation of professional drivers shall be every three (3) years. It may be denied if the professional driver fails to comply with any of the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 7. *Sanctions for non-compliance of professional drivers.* – Professional drivers who fail to comply with Sections 4 and 5 of this Act shall not be eligible for the application or renewal of a professional driver's license.

SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the LTO shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 9. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the existing appropriation of the LTO. Thereafter, the amounts needed for the full implementation of this Act shall be included in the budget of the LTO in the succeeding General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision, or part thereof, is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law of the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letter of instruction, administrative orders, rules or regulations contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **5381**

Introduced by Representative ESTRELLITA "GING" B. SUANSING

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Visual impairment among the elderly is a consequence of a functional loss of vision. This can be caused by degenerative eye disorders and other underlying diseases. Senior citizens with functional visual impairment are more prone to falls, burns, and other form of injuries, as well as bouts of depression. Because visual impairment substantially interferes with a person's activities of daily living, and with frail bodies, senior citizens rely and become dependent on others for their care. There is also the matter of costly medical services, which most of our senior citizens are unable to avail.

By intervening in a timely fashion and linking senior citizens to appropriate services, the State can assist in maintaining the health, welfare, and improve the quality of life of our elderly.

This bill seeks to establish a national senior vision services program which will provide comprehensive services to the elderly who suffer from functional visual impairments. The services included in the program are rehabilitation and equipment service; advice, information and signposting service; and a registry for senior citizens with functional visual impairments. Client assessment, information and referral for health care services, as well