

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4876**



Introduced by **Representatives Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr., Jose L. Atienza, Jr. and Cesar V. Sarmiento**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the Land Transportation Office, in 2013 there are more than 7.6 million registered motor vehicles traversing our roads today and it is easily observable that there is a significant increase in the past years. As the number of motor vehicles increases, congestion on the street correspondingly increases and as also vehicular accidents.

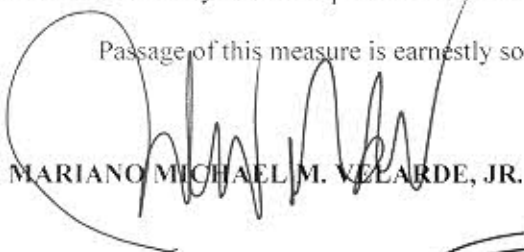
It is of common knowledge and common sense that proper and adequate warning signals and lighting significantly help in avoiding accidents or vehicular collisions. Generally, there are three (3) factors affecting road safety, namely: human factor, vehicle and road designs. Faulty or error in either one of these factors may cause road accidents; conversely improvement in either one will positively impact road safety.

In view of new devices coming out in the market, it is imperative for the State to mandate the manufacturers of motor vehicles to install such devices, specifically on signalling lights and stop lights or brake lights.

Sufficient lighting system such as brake lights and side marker lights, dramatically increases the conspicuity of the motor vehicle and improve the awareness and alertness of other drivers on the presence of the vehicle, the size and direction of the vehicle and be able to anticipate the intentions of the other drivers.

Republic Act 4136 or the Land Transportation and Traffic Code is already fifty three (53) years old and it is timely to amend portions of the Act to adapt to the changing situation and demands.

Passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



MARIANO MICHAEL M. VELARDE, JR.



JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.



CESAR V. SARMIENTO

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**AN ACT MANDATING ALL MOTOR VEHICLES TO HAVE A THIRD BRAKE
LIGHT OR STOP LIGHT AND MANUFACTURERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO
INSTALL THIRD BRAKE LIGHT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 34,
ARTICLE IV OF REPUBLIC ACT 4136, BETTER KNOWN AS THE LAND
TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE**

Section 1. *Objective* – To amend certain provision of Republic Act 4136 or the Land Transportation and Traffic Code, in view of developments in technology and improvement in devices or accessories of motor vehicles, to improve road safety to protect the lives of the commuting public and their properties.

Section 2. Paragraph (e), Section 34, Article IV of Republic Act 4136 shall read as follows:

Section 34. X X X

X X X

(e) Stop Lights. – Every motor vehicle shall be equipped at the rear with at least **three (3) lamps for motor vehicles with four wheels** which shall throw a sustained bright red light visible under all conditions, even under bright sunlight, when the brakes are applied. A **centre high mount stop lamp (CHMSL) or third brake lamp shall be placed at the centre of the back glass inside the interior of the motor vehicle or integrated into the vehicle's deck lid or into a spoiler**. Each bus, truck, trailer or similar vehicles shall be equipped with **at least three (3) lamps which shall throw a sustained bright red light as its stop light at or near its rear. The third stop light shall be placed at the rear centre, with at least twelve centimetres in diameter with the word "Stop" inscribed in the center.**

Section 3. Paragraph (f) of Section 34 shall read as follow:

f) Motorcycle and other vehicle lights. - Every motor vehicle of less than one meter of projected width shall be subject to the preceding provisions

of this section, except that one headlight and one taillight shall be required. No signal light shall be necessary.

Additional lamps may be carried provided they comply with the preceding provisions of this section.

Every motor vehicle, or whatever style, kind, make, character, or nature, when upon a highway during the hours above-mentioned, whether in motion or not, shall have one or more lights so arranged that the same shall be visible at least fifty meters from the front and the rear of such vehicle.

Every truck, trailer or similar vehicles shall be equipped with side marker lights and reflectors near the front and rear of the vehicle and at intermediate locations along its sides to indicate the over-all length of the vehicle that will be lighted during evening or when the condition has low or poor visibility.

Section 4. *Implementation.* Every motor vehicles manufactured locally and imported shall have the abovementioned brake or stop lights and warning lights as provided for in Sections 2 and 3 of this Act. No motor vehicle shall be registered with the Land Transportation Office without these lights.

Section 5. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

MARIANO MICHAEL M. MELARDE, JR.

JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.

CESAR V. SARMIENTO