

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5335**



Introduced by Hon. Delphine Gan Lee

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the Land Transportation Office (LTO) in 2013, there were more than 7.6 million registered motor vehicles traversing our roads and today, it is clear that there is a significant increase in number in the past couple of years with down payment for owning a motor vehicle as low as eighteen thousand pesos (P18,000.00)

A total of 95,615 traffic accidents in National Capital Region (NCR) were recorded 2015, which caused 519 fatalities, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) reported on Thursday. Additionally, 17,103 were injured and there were 77,993 records of "damage to property."

The problem is glaring. The sudden influx of drivers due to easier processes of purchasing motor vehicles, the inherent lack of driver's education all combine to result in drivers not knowing the simple act of moving one's vehicle to the immediate opposite curb in order to allow ambulances or any emergency vehicles to pass is at a loss to many. Drivers instead of moving to the side, speed up which in their perception is to help the ambulance itself instead of moving to the side in order for the said emergency vehicle to pass.

There are roads with two lanes blocked by cars parking on both sides of the street leaving barely any road for motor vehicles to pass in what was supposedly a two-way street. The problem here as states is glaring, the wanton disregard of traffic rules and the downright impunity of drivers here but also partly to blame are the traffic enforcement on the ground on the same roads. The enforcers are present and yet simply choose to ignore the problem and treat it as an everyday fact, as something "normal" that cannot be helped.

This bill aims to stop the "normalcy" in how the public road systems and its laws are being perceived. The goal is to have better awareness in all drivers using the roads of Metro Manila who complain about the worsening traffic conditions on the streets of the simple fact that in order for change to happen, we need to be part of that change.

The urgent passing of this bill is thus earnestly sought.


DELPHINE GAN-LEE
Sectoral Representative
AGRI Party-List

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AN ACT
AMENDING CHAPTER 5, SECTION 56 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136 OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE

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

Section 1. Title. - This act shall be known as the "Land Transportation and Traffic Act of 2017"

Section 2. Declaration Policy. – It is the policy of the State to safeguard our roads for use of any and all drivers. It is also the policy of the State to prioritize on the road emergency vehicles that are on official business and the drivers' thereof sound audible signal or their approach.

Section 3. Definition of Terms. – The following terms shall mean:

- (a) Driver – shall mean any and all licensed operator of a motor vehicle.
- (b) Emergency Vehicles – shall mean all ambulances, police vehicles, fire department vehicles.

Section 4. Amendments. –

ARTICLE V. – Miscellaneous Traffic Rules

SEC. 49. *Right of way for police and other emergency vehicles.* – Upon the approach of any police or fire department vehicle, or of an ambulance giving audible signal, the driver of every other vehicle shall immediately drive the same to a position as near as possible and parallel to the right-hand edge or curb of the highways, and shall stop and remain in such position, until such vehicle shall have passed.

SEC 50. *Tampering with vehicles.* – No unauthorized person shall sound the horn, handle the levers or set in motion or in any way tamper with or damage or deface any motor vehicle.

SEC 52. *Driving or parking on sidewalk.* – No person shall drive or park a motor vehicle upon or along any sidewalk, path or alley not intended for vehicular traffic or parking.

Chapter 5. Section 56 of Republic Act No. 4136 is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER V. – PENAL AND OTHER
PROVISIONS
ARTICLE I. – PENALTIES

SEC 56. Penalty for violation. – xxx.

(a) xxx;

xxx;

(b) xxx;

xxx;

(c) xxx;

xxx;

(d) xxx;

xxx;

(e) xxx;

xxx;

(f) xxx;

xxx;

(g) xxx;

xxx;

(h) Violations of Sections forty-nine, fifty, fifty-two a fine not exceeding **TEN THOUSAND PESOS [P10,000.00]**.

Section 5. Separability Clause. - Should any provision of this Act be subsequently declared as unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity or the legality of the other provisions.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, other issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

Section 7. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,