

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6223



Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Road traffic injuries is a global problem, affecting about 1.25 million people around the world each year¹. In the Philippines, road accidents were the fourth leading cause of mortality from 2008 to 2013² with the working age group (15 to 64 years old) as the most vulnerable to these types of accidents³. Common causes of these accidents are speeding, driving under the influence of alcohol, non-use of motorcycle helmets, seatbelts and child restraints and distracted driving⁴.

The Philippine Government has taken strides in preventing road accidents and casualties. Most recently, Republic Act No. 10913, also known as the Anti-Distracted Driving Act, has been enacted into law⁵ and has taken effect since July 6, 2017 prohibiting motorists to electronic or communications devices while driving. Laws like these recognize the fundamentals of road sharing and ensure the safety of both motorist and pedestrian. A truly well-designed system would accommodate the tendencies of human error, as well as take into account the welfare of those involved. Well-being and safety should be instilled in every person through holistic, formal education.

This bill seeks to include a comprehensive driver's education in the latter years of the enhanced basic education (K to 12) program to prepare young citizens, both availing of license or not, to be better knowledgeable on road sharing rules and basic road

¹ <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs358/en/>

² http://www.doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/publications/2013PHScompressed_0.pdf

³ <http://www.rappler.com/move-ph/issues/road-safety/166151-road-crashes-philippines-awareness-safety>

⁴ Ibid

⁵ <http://www.lto.gov.ph/latest-advisory/317-republic-act-10913-or-the-anti-distracted-driving-act.html>

safety. This mandatory integration in the curriculum will also include the rights and responsibilities of drivers to better equip our future motorists on rules and regulations on driving, driving safety, and car passenger safety.

This bill will convene the Department of Education (DepEd), the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Department of Transportation, the Land Transportation Office (LTO), the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), and Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) into an ad-hoc curriculum committee to construct a syllabus on basic road safety and a comprehensive driver's education subject.

As a matter of great importance, this bill seeks to assist Senator Grace Poe's version in the Senate and its approval is earnestly sought.



LUIS RAYMUND F. VILLAFUERTE JR.

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AN ACT
INTEGRATING BASIC ROAD SAFETY AND COMPREHENSIVE DRIVER'S
EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM OF THE ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION
(K TO 12) PROGRAM

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

ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Road Safety and Comprehensive Driver's Education Act of 2016*".

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to reduce road accidents on all types of roads used for transportation by raising the awareness of road users such as pedestrians, commuters and motorists on their rights and responsibilities and the everyday risks that they face. As such, the State shall ensure that all road users are aware of the principles of basic road safety and comprehensive driver's education.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For the purpose of this Act:

- a) "*Basic road safety*"- refers to the rights and responsibilities of pedestrians and commuters in their use of all types of roads used for transportation in order to reduce the incidence of road accidents. It shall include, but not be

limited to, road awareness, road signages, responsible commuting, and the responsibilities of pedestrians;

- b) "*Comprehensive Driver's Education*"- refers to the rights and responsibilities of drivers in their use of on all types of roads used for transportation in order to reduce the incidence of road accidents. It shall include but not be limited to basic road safety and its components, education on pertinent laws and rules and regulations on driving, traffic signages, driving safety, and car passenger safety;
- c) "*K to 12*"- refers to the enhanced basic education program created under Republic Act No. 10533, otherwise known as the "*Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013*".

ARTICLE II

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

SECTION 4. *Integration into Curriculum.* – Basic road safety and comprehensive driver's education are hereby integrated into the curriculum of the K to 12 program. Basic road safety shall be made part of the elementary curriculum. Comprehensive driver's education shall be made part of the junior and senior high school and higher education curricula.

SECTION 5. *Ad-Hoc Curriculum Committee.* – There shall be created an ad-hoc curriculum committee composed of the Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd), the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOTR), the executive director of the Land Transportation Office (LTO), the executive director of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), and the Chairman of the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), or their permanent representatives. The committee shall be administratively attached to the DepEd and chaired by the DepEd Secretary or his permanent representative. The Committee shall conduct public hearings and consult concerned stakeholders from the private and non-governmental sectors.

The committee shall convene within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act and shall have one (1) year to design the basic road safety and comprehensive driver's education program and its components. Thereafter, the Committee shall be *functus officio* and the member agencies shall ensure the full and continuing implementation of this Act.

ARTICLE III

FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – The funds needed for the purpose of this Act shall be indicated as a line item under the budget of the DepEd under the General Appropriations Act. Appropriations for the implementation of this Act shall be sourced from the Special Road Safety Fund as created under Republic Act No. 8794.

SECTION 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DepEd, CHED, DOTR, LTO, LTFRB, and MMDA shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act within thirty (30) days from its effectivity.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 10. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,