



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7439

Introduced by Representative Florida P. Robes

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the World Health Organization Global Road Safety Reports, 1.24 million deaths & 50 million injured are added to the long list of casualties and victims of road crash and accidents yearly. Relative thereto, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 64/255 "Improving Global Road Safety", where it calls to action by "Encouraging Member States to continue to strengthen their commitment to road safety, including its observance of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims on the third Sunday of November every year" on March 2, 2010. The Philippines as a signatory to the said resolution ratify it through the issuance of Presidential Proclamation 2092 on June 18 2010 by then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. The proclamation declared every 3rd Sunday of November as the national day for the "World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims" and designated a Working Committee headed by the Department of Transportation (DOTR) with member agencies, Department of Interior & Local Governments (DILG), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education (DEPED), and the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA). On April 28, 2011, President Benigno S. Aquino III, proclaimed the year 2011 as the "Decade of Action for Road Safety" in the Philippines. This recognized the importance of addressing

the alarming number of deaths and injuries caused by road crashes through a Philippine Road Safety Action Plan. A total of 6,806 in 2006, number of deaths in road crashes leaped to 8,636 in 2014 representing a 27% increase over the seven-year period. Annually, this translated to an average increase of 4%. While there was a slight reduction in 2011, the pioneer year of Decade of Road Safety in the Philippines, the number of road crash deaths increased again starting 2012. During the same period, road crash death rate in the Philippines has been slightly increasing. Death rate recorded an average annual increase of 1.4% from 2006 to 2014. The burden of grief and distress experienced by this huge number of people is all the greater because many of the victims are young. It is because many of the crashes could and should have been prevented. It is also because the response to road death and injury for the families is often inadequate, unsympathetic, and inappropriate to the loss of life or quality of life.

The House of Representatives recognizes that road safety is a shared responsibility and acknowledges the magnitude of the humanitarian crisis of fatal road crashes that devastate families & destroy aspiration. Both the government & the civil society organizations' collective action can be accelerated towards a sustainable engagement campaign by actively supporting the United Nations World Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims & Survivors. It further accepts its vital responsibility to establish an annual venue of collaboration for road safety stakeholders from the academe, business, police, hospital, emergency, and relevant government institutions as an affirmation to the urgent need for public recognition commitment to life-saving road safety programs. As such, this measure which seeks to respond to the great need of road crash victims for public recognition of their loss and suffering shall convey the importance the government accords to the task of reducing road traffic casualties and to stop the carnage. This Act mainly derives its inspiration from & dedicates its results to the collective human experience of the **Families of Road Victims & Survivors Association Philippines**, an advocacy arm firmly committed towards humanitarian service to countless victims and their families and the enactment and reinforcement of life

saving legislations. If enacted into law, the Philippines will be the 1st country in the Southeast Asian region to fully adopt a law that firmly establishes this solemn day for road crash victims, survivors, & families.

In light thereof, the approval of this "Road Safety Memorial Day" legislation is earnestly sought.


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AN ACT DESIGNATING THE 3RD SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER AS THE NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS, SURVIVORS & FAMILIES

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

SEC. 1. Title — This Act shall be known as the "National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, Survivors, & Families Act."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is the policy of the national government to ensure the protection and safety of its people from any form of road hazards and to value human lives by way of remembering the victims of road crashes and recognizing the sufferings of their affected families and communities. Toward this end, a National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, Survivors, & Families must be declared to raise the awareness of the people on the causes, consequences, and costs of road deaths & injuries, and for the strengthening of advocacy to prevent such traumatic incidents thru a collaborative platform that brings together multi sector stakeholders.

SEC. 3. Commemoration Day. — Every 3rd Sunday of November of each year is hereby declared as the "National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, Survivors, & Families."

SEC. 4. Mandatory Activities. — To ensure the meaningful observance of the day as herein declared, the following activities shall be undertaken under each local government unit:

a) Special commemoration to remember all road crash victims, survivors, & families by way of religious mass services & flower laying ceremonies lead by LGU officials (city / municipality);

b) Enactment of city & municipal ordinance / resolution for the designation of an identified local government unit public spaces as a memorial tribute for victims & survivors;

c) Special blood donation campaign per local government unit as coordinated thru the Department of Health, Philippine Blood Center, and the Philippine Red Cross in the area;

d) Special recognition day for emergency/ rescue personnel, volunteers, & stakeholders;

e) Special inter faith & inter religious commemoration in all local government offices and police stations; and

g) Public awareness campaign, solidarity march, & road safety advocacy programs and services;

SEC. 5. National Working Committee. - To oversee the activities under this Act and prepare a program for the meaningful commemoration of the Memorial Day, the Department of Transportation (DOTR) shall be designated as the Chairperson, with the following as members:

- a) Department of Health (DOH),
- b) Department of Education (DEPED),
- c) Commission on Higher Education (CHED),
- d) Department of Interior and Local Governments (DILG),
- e) Department of Social Welfare & Development (DSWD),
- f) National Youth Commission (NYC),
- g) Presidential Communications Office (PCOO),
- h) Philippine Information Office (PIO),
- i) Philippine National Police (PNP),
- j) Philippine Blood Center (PBC),
- k) League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP),
- l) League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP),
- m) League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP),
- n) Liga ng mga Baranggay (LB),
- o) League of Governors & Vice Governors of the Philippines (LGP & LVGP),
- p) League of Mayors & Vice Mayors of the Philippines (LMP & LVMP),
- q) Provincial Board Members League of the Philippines (PBML),
- r) Philippine Councilors League of the Philippines (PCL),
- s) Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP),
- t) Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA)
- u) Philippine Red Cross (PRC) National Head Quarters

SEC. 6. Appropriation. – The sum of Fifty million pesos (P50,000,000) for the National Capital Region Activity and the sum of Five million pesos (P5,000,000) for each local government unit is hereby appropriated from any available funds from the National Treasury for the initial implementation of this act. Thereafter, such sum or so much thereof shall be included in the Approved Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Commemoration Day Working Committee shall promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the effective implementation of this act. The IRR shall provide procedures geared towards streamlined processes that will support the National Day.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the act or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting with full effect implementation.

SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. – Any act, law, decrees, ordinance, resolution, executive orders rules and regulations, or administrative issuance contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this act is hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. Effectivity. – This act shall take effect Fifteen (15) days after publication in designated two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,