



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5115**



Introduced by Representative BONIFACIO LAQUI BOSITA

AN ACT
INTEGRATING ROAD DISCIPLINE AND SAFETY EDUCATION IN
THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to integrate road discipline and safety education in the senior high school curriculum and appropriate funds therefor.

Section 13 of Article II and Paragraph 2, Section 3 of Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that:

“The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.”

“They shall inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop moral character and personal discipline, encourage critical and creative thinking, broaden scientific and technological knowledge, and promote vocational efficiency.”

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP) reported that despite mobility restrictions imposed by the government to prevent the spread of COVID-19, vehicular accidents in Metro Manila persisted. In 2020, 345 Filipinos died per day due to transport accidents. Accordingly, the number of persons involved in accidents for 2016-2020 showed an average of 545 persons per day involved accidents with a fatality rate of 1.9 percent. The breakdown of fatalities shows the unfortunate fact that deaths didn't just include drivers and passengers but involved an average of 34 percent of pedestrians.

Based on the data from the Philippine Statistics Authority, there were 6,440 deaths caused by transportation accidents between January and September 2021. This represented a 4.2 percent increase over the 6,1719 deaths recorded during the same period in 2020. Most of the victims are parents who have children to raise. Sadly, their children have to endure the unpleasant consequences of these unfortunate road incidents.

On the other hand, according to the World Health Organization, there are around 2,270 children die every day as a result of unintentional injuries. In the Philippines, there are around 35 road crash fatalities per day or an estimated 12,690 fatalities in a year. Children have higher vulnerabilities to road traffic injuries due to their physical and development limitations. They are less able to see obstructions and have difficulty in estimating the speed of approaching vehicles.

While the causes of accidents and casualties may vary due to several factors, they can be prevented through proper education and training of road users on road safety and traffic laws, rules, and regulations.

This bill seeks to instill the values of discipline, courtesy, respect, and prudent caution in senior high school students early in their driving lives; to promote and educate teen drivers on road safety standards and traffic regulations; to provide insight on their driving responsibilities; to provide the proper skills and training they need to use sound judgment, make good decisions, and safely operate any vehicle; and to provide knowledge on the operation and maintenance of any vehicle.

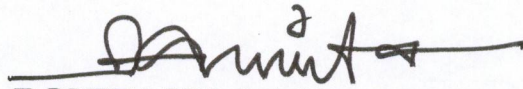
Further, after a qualified student completed the road discipline and safety education curriculum, the Department of Education and the Land Transportation Office shall issue a student driver's permit to the qualified student free of charge. The student may also choose between a non-professional or professional driver's license after passing the required theoretical and practical

examinations and determining the proper condition and restriction code applicable to the student.

The importance of mobility cannot be overemphasized as it is an essential part of our daily lives. Driving a motor vehicle, including the knowledge of road safety, therefore, is a skill that should be adequately taught during the early formative years to instill the value of human life and respect for traffic regulations.

The integration of road discipline and safety education into the basic education curriculum will prepare senior high school students to become disciplined and responsible citizens of the country; ensure that our children are protected at all times, so they can survive, thrive and reach their full potential; and help fill in the gaps in government plans to lower the number of people killed in car accidents and make traffic better all over the country, especially in Metro Manila.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


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3 **THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND**
4 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

5
6 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines*
7 *in Congress assembled:*

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9 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “*Road*”
10 *Discipline and Safety Education Act.*”
11

12 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the declared policy of the State to
13 establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of
14 education relevant to the needs of the people and society. To that end, the state
15 must educate youth about the importance of road discipline and safety in order
16 to prevent or reduce the country's rising number of road traffic accidents, which
17 frequently result in injuries, deaths, and property damage, including goods.
18

19 The road discipline and safety education aim to achieve the following
20 objectives:
21

22 a. Inculcate among the youth, particularly the senior high school students,
23 the values of road discipline, courtesy, respect, and sensible caution;
24

25 b. Promote safe and responsible driving, road safety standards, and
26 obedience to traffic laws, rules, and regulations;
27

28 c. Educate the youth about road dangers and hazards, how to avoid them,
29 and the negative consequences of car accidents; and
30

1 d. Equip the youth with the necessary knowledge and skills and train
2 them to be responsible road users as drivers, commuters, or pedestrians.

3
4 **SEC. 3. *Road Discipline and Safety Education.*** – Road discipline and
5 safety education are hereby integrated into the curriculum of senior high school.
6 The road discipline and safety education curriculum will be made by the
7 Department of Education in cooperation with the Department of Transportation
8 and in consultation with road safety groups like the Road Safety Advocates of
9 the Philippines. The following will be taken into account:

- 10
11 a. Basic knowledge of traffic laws, rules, and regulations, including rules
12 and regulations affecting pedestrians and commuters;
13
14 b. Rights and responsibilities of every road user, such as pedestrians,
15 commuters, and drivers, and the role of traffic enforcement authorities;
16
17 c. Importance of observing the traffic laws, rules and regulations,
18 including the proper use of road safety equipment, and the
19 consequences of its violation;
20
21 d. Theoretical and practical introduction to basic driving skills, including
22 basic and correct habits and traits that a driver must have;
23
24 e. Activities and exercises that may develop the ability to respond,
25 including the development of sound judgment, decision-making and
26 reaction time, to any traffic situation; and
27
28 f. There is awareness of the different causes of road accidents and the ill
29 effects of road accidents on the victims and society.
30

31 **SEC. 4. *Teaching Method.*** – The road discipline and safety education
32 curriculum's teaching method shall include interactive instruction as well as the
33 use of video, film, computer technology, written material, demonstrations, and
34 role-playing.

35
36 Practical activities and exercises must be conducted to maximize the
37 learning experience of the students, particularly on the use of road safety
38 equipment and motor vehicles.

39
40 The Secretary of Education may seek assistance from appropriate
41 government agencies to develop the necessary educational and instructional
42 materials.
43

1 SEC. 5. **Instructor.** – The instructor for the road discipline and safety
2 education curriculum must possess the following qualifications:

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- 4 a. A baccalaureate graduate of any course or a holder of National
5 Technical-Vocational Education Training Trainer's Certificate issued
6 by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority;
- 7
- 8 b. A holder of professional driver's license issued by the Land
9 Transportation Office (LTO);
- 10
- 11 c. A traffic abiding citizen with no traffic apprehension for the past one
12 (1) year prior to application and no record of suspension or revocation
13 of the professional driver's license;
- 14
- 15 d. With at least sixty (60) hours of training accredited by LTO on road
16 safety; and
- 17
- 18 e. Other qualifications as may be determined by the Secretaries of
19 Education and Transportation.
- 20

21 The Secretary of Education shall, in coordination with the Secretary of
22 Budget and Management, determine the number of required instructors and
23 their employment status and salary grades.

24

25 SEC. 6. **Student Driver's Permit.** – The Department of Education and
26 LTO shall issue, free of charge, a student driver's permit to every qualified
27 student who has successfully completed the road discipline and safety education
28 curriculum.

29

30 After passing the required theoretical and practical examinations set by
31 LTO and determining the proper condition and restriction code applicable, the
32 student may secure either a non-professional or professional driver's license.

33

34 SEC.7. **Appropriation.** – The amount necessary for the initial
35 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriation of
36 the Department of Education. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for
37 the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual
38 General Appropriations Act.

39

40 SEC. 8. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days
41 from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall, in coordination
42 with the Secretary of Transportation and Assistant Secretary of the Land
43 Transportation Office, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
44 implementation of this Act.

1
2 **SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules,
3 and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
4 repealed or modified accordingly.
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6 **SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
7 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
8

9 Approved,
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