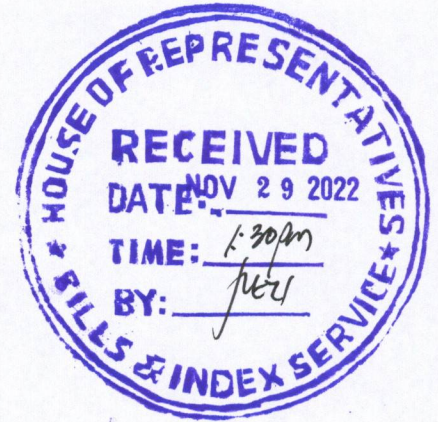




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6451

Introduced by **1-RIDER Party-list Representative Hon. Ramon Rodrigo**
“Rodge” L. Gutierrez

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure seeks to exempt drivers of Public Utility Vehicles (PUVs) from fees imposed by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) for renewing one's Professional Driver's license. The exemption does not include the necessary documents or exams that need to be undertaken before the application for renewal could be processed by the LTO.

Public transportation is the main factor that allows mobility for a significant number of Filipinos, and one of the important roles that keep public transportation in motion are the drivers of PUVs. It is a fact that majority of PUV drivers are minimum wage-earners, and as such, might find the license fees imposed by the LTO burdensome and heavy on their finances.

Considering the vital role that PUV drivers play in the public transportation system, the exemption from paying LTO fees would help ease the financial burden and encourage the application for renewal of their licenses. This Representation believes that public transportation is accountable for economic activity both in urban and rural settings, as such, the various players in the industry must be given adequate incentives to stay and continue their efforts, starting with the PUV drivers.

Thus, the passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.


HON. RAMON RODRIGO “RODGE” L. GUTIERREZ
Representative, 1-RIDER Party-List

¹This measure has also been filed as House Bill No. 214 in the 19th Congress by Hon. Mikaela Angela B. Suansing and Hon. Horacio P. Suansing, Jr



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AN ACT
EXEMPTING PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLE DRIVERS FROM
PAYING FEES AND CHARGES IMPOSED BY THE LAND
TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN CONNECTION WITH THE
APPLICATION AND RENEWAL OF THEIR PROFESSIONAL
DRIVER'S LICENSE.

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "*Free Public Utility Vehicles Driver's License Act.*"

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy of the State to protect marginalized groups, particularly drivers and operators of public utility vehicles, in vital recognition of the important role they play in economic growth and development.

SECTION 3. Definition of Public Utility Vehicle. - For purposes of this Act, a Public Utility Vehicle (PUV) shall refer to internal combustion engine vehicles that carry passengers and/or domestic cargo for a fee, offering services to the public, namely: (i) truck-for-hire, (ii) UV express service, (iii) public utility buses, (iv) public utility jeepneys, (v) tricycles, (vi) filcabs, and (vii) taxis: Provided, that transport vehicles accredited with and operating through transport network corporations shall not be considered as public utility vehicles.

SECTION 4. Exemption From Payment of Fees and Charges. - Except for the payment of fees required to be paid to institutions, government or otherwise, providing services and documents necessary to complete the requirements for a professional driver's license as required by the accredited clinics of the LTO, ID pictures, birth certificates and the like, no fees or charges shall be collected by the LTO in connection with the application or renewal of the professional driver's license of the drivers of

PUVs.

SECTION 5. Requirement for Exemption. – Before the exemption authorized under this Act may be availed of, the applicant must be included in the validated list of drivers of PUVS of the local government unit concerned and must present a certification from the local chief executive of the barangay where the driver resides or the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) before the LTO. The Certification to be issued by the concerned local chief executive shall be called a “PUV OPERATOR/ DRIVER CERTIFICATE”. Such PUV Operator/Driver Certificate may be issued by the local chief executive concerned upon presentation of any proof, which may include LTFRB Franchise, ID issued by transport organization and TODA membership.

SECTION 6. Regular Monitoring. – The Land Transportation Office (LTO), in coordination with the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), shall monitor the implementation of the program and report relevant data to the Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOTr) every two (2) years in order to ensure the attainment of the goals of this Act.

SECTION 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Transportation (DOTr), in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall issue the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 8. Repealing Clause. – All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

