

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **10400**

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Pedestrians are considered the most vulnerable road users mainly in less developed countries. Hence, pedestrian safety must be a primary concern that needs to be addressed by the government. Road accidents involving pedestrians are prevalent in our country because of several factors including road-user behavior, road geometry, road environment, vehicular characteristics, ambient conditions, and other relevant factors such as the volume and frequency of pedestrians on the road.

Road safety interventions introduced by the government have been generally focused on improving the safety of motorists rather than pedestrians. It is just prudent that we think about the safety and protection of pedestrians to minimize accidents. One way of addressing it is to reduce the frequency of pedestrians plying the road particularly on national roads.

This bill seeks to construct overpasses in all national roads with private or public schools, where a huge number of pedestrians are present at the same time. This will significantly reduce the volume and frequency of their road usage.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate consideration and approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

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AN ACT
TO CONSTRUCT OVERPASSES IN ALL NATIONAL ROADS WITH PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SCHOOLS,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "Overpass Act of 2024."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the declared policy of the State to safeguard life, health, property, and the general welfare of the people. The State recognizes the sanctity of life and ensures every human being is safe and secure every minute and in every corner of the world.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms* –

a. Overpass - refers to a footbridge or similar structure that crosses over a road or highway
b. National Road / Highway – refers to the network of roads maintained by the Department of Public Works and Highways classified as national primary, national secondary, and national tertiary roads under the Road Classification System.

SEC. 4. *Coverage.* – An overpass in every school situated along national road or highways shall be constructed under the supervision of the Department of Public Works and Highways to allow pedestrians to safely cross without interrupting the smooth flow of traffic.

SEC. 5. *Role of Agencies.* – The DPWH, with the assistance from the Department of Education (DepEd), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and Commission on Higher Education (CHED), is hereby mandated to be the lead agency in the implementation of this Act to formulate a guideline, identification and to structure a timetable to ensure the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 6. *Appropriations.* – The funds needed to implement the provision of this Act shall be included in the budget of the DPWH under the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause* -If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and binding.

SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby likewise repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation

Approved,