

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. **10709**



Introduced by Representative Richard I. Gomez, DPA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Road safety is a paramount concern that directly impacts the lives and well-being of residents in the Fourth District of Leyte, within Region VIII of the Philippines. This district, characterized by a blend of urban and rural areas, relies heavily on its road infrastructure for daily transportation needs, commerce, and social interactions. However, the presence of improperly placed lamp posts, that have been left behind during road widening projects has become a persistent issue, posing significant risks to motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians alike.

The essence of the problem lies in the obstruction these misplaced, left-behind lamp posts create. Originally intended to provide illumination and enhance visibility at night, many of these posts have become hazards in new roadways, narrowing lanes and impeding the smooth flow of traffic. This situation not only increases the likelihood of accidents but also contributes to traffic congestion, delays, and frustration among commuters.

In response to these challenges, this proposed House Bill aims to mandate the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Region VIII to automatically allocate funds specifically for the removal of hazardous lamp posts along the roads of the Fourth District of Leyte for the calendar year 2025. The primary objective is twofold: to enhance road safety and to ensure that the roads are utilized effectively and efficiently for their intended purpose—safe and seamless transportation.

The legislative measure calls for a comprehensive approach. Firstly, it mandates the DPWH Region VIII to conduct a thorough survey and assessment of all existing misplaced lamp

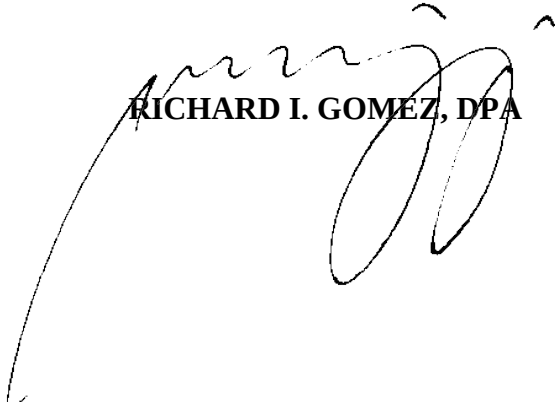
posts resulting from DPWH road widening projects.. The DPWH shall subsequently develop a plan and allocate funds for such removal.

Secondly, the bill proposes that any upcoming and future road widening project in the Fourth District of Leyte, must come with a built-in budget for the removal of misplaced lamp posts resulting from such projects.

Close cooperation with local government units and other stakeholders will be essential to address any logistical challenges that may arise during the implementation phase. It also emphasizes the replacement of removed lamp posts with alternative lighting solutions that meet stringent road safety standards and do not compromise visibility or road usability.

The passage of this House Bill shall ensure the safety, well-being, and prosperity of the residents and travelers in the Fourth District of Leyte. By mandating the removal of hazardous lamp posts and promoting proper road management, we are making a proactive investment in the district's future.

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



RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA

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**AN ACT MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
REGION VIII TO AUTOMATICALLY IMBED FUNDS FOR THE REMOVAL OF
MISPLACED LAMP POSTS IN ALL PROJECTS IN THE FOURTH DISTRICT OF
LEYTE TO PREVENT ROAD ACCIDENTS AND ENSURE PROPER ROAD
UTILIZATION FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2025**

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

SEC. 1. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to ensure the safety of its citizens and the efficient utilization of public infrastructure. In line with this policy, it is imperative to address the perennial problems of road accidents caused by misplaced lamp posts due to road widening in the Fourth District of Leyte.

SEC. 2. Mandate. – The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Region VIII is hereby mandated to allocate and utilize funds for the Calendar Year 2025 for the purpose of removing all misplaced lamp posts along the roads in the Fourth District of Leyte.

SEC. 3. Scope and Coverage. – This Act shall cover all national, provincial, and municipal roads within the Fourth District of Leyte where lamp posts are found to be obstructive and pose a hazard to road users.

SEC. 4. Removal of Misplaced Lamp Posts. – The DPWH Region VIII shall:
a) Conduct a comprehensive survey and assessment of all roads in the Fourth District of Leyte to identify misplaced lamp posts that resulted from DPWH road widening projects

requiring removal;

b) Develop a budget, funding and implementation plan for the removal of old lamp posts for all upcoming and future DPWH projects through the automatic inclusion of such allocation in project budgets to make such removal of lamp posts a required expenditure in DPWH VIII projects in the Fourth District of Leyte;

c) Coordinate with local government units (LGUs), Leyte 5 Electric Cooperative, Inc. (LEYECO 5) and relevant stakeholders to ensure smooth implementation and address any concerns related to the removal process; and

d) Ensure that all removed lamp posts are replaced with alternative lighting solutions that do not obstruct the roadways and adhere to road safety standards.

SEC. 5. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA) for the Calendar Year 2025 under the budget of the DPWH Region VIII.

SEC. 6. Reporting. – The DPWH Region VIII shall submit a quarterly report to the House of Representatives and the Senate on the progress of the implementation of this Act, including the number of lamp posts removed, the cost incurred, and any issues encountered.

SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Region 8, in close coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and relevant Local Government Units (LGUs), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to ensure the effective implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,