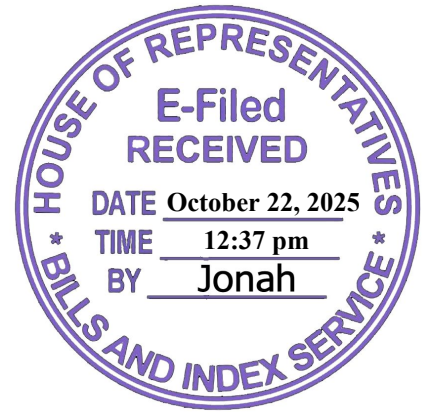


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5667



INTRODUCED BY REP. PATRICK MICHAEL "PM" D. VARGAS

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING TRICYCLE DRIVER TRAINING AND MOTORIST
AWARENESS PROGRAMS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Tricycles continue to serve as one of the most vital modes of public transportation in the country, especially along narrow roads in both urban and rural barangays. They remain indispensable to millions of commuters who rely on them daily for short distances and community-level travel.

Based on the 2023 Annual Report by the Land Transportation Office, there were approximately 7.8 million registered motorcycles and tricycles nationwide, making them the largest segment of the country's total motor vehicle population. Of these, an estimated 1.5 million are registered tricycles operating under local government franchises. However, the actual number is believed to be significantly higher as many motorcycles continue to operate without formal registration or franchises.

Despite its presence and usefulness in people's daily mobility, tricycles continue to face issues of safety, regulation, and training. A study on driver compliance in Cabanatuan, the "Tricycle Capital of the Philippines", in 2023, revealed that while many tricycle drivers possess basic knowledge of traffic rules, actual adherence to safety standards is inconsistent. The study also noted that most drivers have limited access to formal driver education, often learning informally through peers.

These findings highlight the vital need for institutionalized training programs and awareness campaigns that will professionalize tricycle driving and promote road discipline among both tricycle drivers and other motorists.

In Metro Manila, passenger tricycle injury ranks fourth in causing motor vehicle injuries.¹ Since most Filipino commuters rely heavily on tricycles as their means of transportation, sufficient measures must be implemented to ensure the driver's safety skills and awareness.

This bill seeks to establish tricycle driver safety training and motorist awareness programs at the national level in the hope of reducing road accidents, improving driver competence, and enhancing the image and welfare of tricycle drivers as responsible public transport providers.

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



REP. PATRICK MICHAEL "PM" D. VARGAS

Fifth District, Quezon City

¹ UP NCTS. _ . Tricycles Operations Management Seminar. Available from: <http://ncts.upd.edu.ph/main/component/content/article/3-uncategorized/55-tricycle-operations-management-seminar-trioms> [30 Accessed Online On September 22, 2022]

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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 "*Tricycle Drivers Safety Act*".

SECTION 2. Definition of Terms. - For purposes of this Act, the term:

- a) "LTO" shall mean the Land Transportation Office;
- b) "Motorist Awareness" shall mean individual or collective motorist awareness of the presence of tricycles and motorcycles on or near roadways; and safe driving practices that avoid injury to tricycles, motorcyclists, bicyclists, and pedestrians;
- c) "Motorists awareness program" shall mean any information or public awareness program designed to enhance motorists awareness that is developed by or in coordination with the Land Transportation Office and the local government unit authority having jurisdiction over tricycle regulation;
- d) "TESDA" shall mean the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority;
- e) "Tricycle" shall mean a motor vehicle composed of a motorcycle with more than two (2) cylinders of five hundred cubic centimeters (500cc) engine capacity, with a single-wheel sidecar designed to accommodate three (3) passengers only including the driver; and

- f) "Tricycle Drivers Safety Program" shall mean any formal program of instruction that provides accident avoidance and other safety-oriented operational skills to tricycle drivers, including innovative training to meet unique regional needs.

SECTION 3. *Implementing Agency.* - The LTO, with the assistance of TESDA, shall:

- a) Develop and implement a nationwide Tricycle Drivers Safety Program in coordination with tricycle regulation offices of local government units;
- b) Develop and implement a nationwide Motorist Awareness Program in coordination with the tricycle regulation offices of local government units;
- c) Collect and analyze data on tricycle accidents and other information that can be used to monitor the effectivity of the program and for research, technical assistance, and policy development; and
- d) Provide continuous information and awareness campaigns to the target driver and the general public on transportation safety issues.

SECTION 4. *Role of Local Government Units.* - The office of each local government unit that is in-charge of regulating the tricycle sector in their jurisdiction shall ensure that tricycle drivers shall not operate without first undergoing the Tricycle Drivers Safety Program. A franchise shall not be granted until a certificate issued by the LTO to the driver/applicant has been presented.

SECTION 5. *Appropriations.* - To carry out the provision of this Act, such amount as may be necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continuous operation of the program shall be included in the annual appropriations of the Land Transportation Office.

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,