



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 5733

Introduced by CIBAC Party-List Representative
EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The indiscriminate use of sirens, blinkers, beacons, and other emergency vehicle accessories, popularly referred to as "wang-wang" has long been associated with a culture of entitlement, abuse of power, and disregard for public safety. This misuse not only creates hazards on the roads but also erodes public trust in the responsible operation of motor vehicles, especially when such misuse is committed by public officials to gain undue advantage or assert unwarranted authority over other road users.

The urgency of this measure is underscored by recent data from the Philippine National Police - Highway Patrol Group (PNP-HPG). In its intensified campaign against unauthorized vehicle modifications conducted pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 96, the PNP-HPG reported that in January 2025 alone, authorities confiscated 3,205 unauthorized or illegal lights, 260 blinkers, 134 illegal horns, 79 modified mufflers, and 1 unauthorized siren.¹

These alarming figures point to the widespread misuse of devices meant exclusively for emergency vehicles, such as those operated by the police, fire services, and ambulances.

When unlawfully used by private individuals or non-emergency vehicles, these accessories foster a dangerous illusion of official privilege and compromise the integrity of traffic regulations.

Existing regulations on the subject matter issued by various law enforcement agencies such as the Land Transportation Office (LTO) and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), lack uniformity, leading to confusion and ineffective enforcement. This bill aims to address these challenges by establishing a cohesive framework to regulate and deter the unauthorized use of emergency vehicle lights and

¹ Philippine National Police - Highway patrol Group, PNP HPG Recovers 76 Stolen Vehicles, Arrests 45 in January 2025. Published on February 1, 2025. Available at <https://hpg.pnp.gov.ph/pnp-hpg-recovers-76-stolen-vehicles-arrests-45-in-january-2025-crackdown/> (Accessed on 1 July 2025)

audio accessories, and ensure their proper use for appropriate cases, such as the transportation of patients or victims who need immediate medical care.

The proposed legislation aligns with the Constitutional principle that protecting life and property and promoting the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all people of the blessings of democracy,² by ensuring the responsible use of beacons, sirens, and other emergency vehicle lights and audio accessories while driving or operating a motor vehicle. Further, the proposed measure provides mechanisms to enforce the high standards of conduct that apply to government officials and personnel, including standards on modest living and prioritizing public interest over personal gain, especially in shared and public spaces like Philippine roads.

The bill also provides definitions to clarify the scope of prohibited activities, distinguishing authorized use from unauthorized use of emergency vehicle equipment. The bill also imposes strict penalties, including fines and driver's license suspension, to discourage individuals from engaging in unlawful use of such devices.

For these reasons, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA

² Philippine Constitution, Art., II, Section 5



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AN ACT
PROHIBITING THE INDISCRIMINATE USE OF BEACONS, SIRENS, AND OTHER
EMERGENCY VEHICLE LIGHTS AND AUDIO ACCESSORIES FOR MOVING
MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW, PROVIDING
PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "*Anti-Wang Wang Act*".
2

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - Pursuant to the Constitutional principle that
4 recognizes the protection of life and property and the promotion of the general welfare
5 as essential for the enjoyment of the blessings of democracy, it is hereby declared the
6 policy of the State to ensure the safety of all road users through the observance of the
7 responsible use of motor vehicles.
8

9 It is also the policy of the State to promote the highest standard of ethics in public
10 service, and to ensure that public officials and personnel foster public trust by living
11 modestly and prioritizing public interest over personal gain, especially in the use of
12 shared spaces such as Philippine roads.
13

14 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall
15 be defined as follows:
16

- 17 a) **Emergency Vehicle Light** refers to lights, other than headlights and taillights
18 as defined under Republic Act No. 4136, otherwise known as the "Land
19 Transportation and Traffic Code," as amended, that are dedicated to convey
20 urgency, warnings, or signaling during law enforcement and other authorized
21 activities, including but not limited to rotating lights or beacons or dome lights,
22 fixed flashing lights, strobe lights, and light-emitting diode (LED) lighting,
23 oscillating lights, blinkers, and shall also refer to after-marketing modifications
24 such as wig-wag devices that are designed to flash the headlamps
25 alternately or hideaway lights;

- 1 b) **Audio Accessory** refers to a bell, siren, or exhaust whistle or any other
2 similar device and shall include a horn or signaling device that emits an
3 exceptionally loud, startling, or disagreeable sound, other than the horn or
4 signaling device built in the motor vehicle as defined and allowed under R.A.
5 No. 4136, as amended; and
6 c) **Motor Vehicle** refers to any land transportation vehicle propelled by any
7 power other than muscular power using public highways, with the exception
8 of those provided under Republic Act No. 4136.
9

10 **SEC. 4. Regulating the Use of Emergency Vehicle Lighting and Audio**
11 **Accessories in Motor Vehicles. –**
12

- 13 a) It shall be unlawful for any person, including government officials and personnel,
14 to use an emergency vehicle light or audio accessory while driving or operating
15 a motor vehicle, or to attach such lights or audio accessories to or within the
16 motor vehicle, except when authorized under Sec. 4(c) of this Act and subject
17 to the conditions set forth in Sections 4(d) and 4(e), as applicable.
18
19 b) The prohibition under Sec. 4(a) of this Act shall apply to the owner of a private
20 motor vehicle, or a government official or personnel to whom an official vehicle
21 has been assigned for use, who permits the use of an emergency vehicle light
22 or audio accessory while driving or operating a motor vehicle, or permits such
23 lights or audio accessories to be attached to or within the motor vehicle. If any
24 person uses an emergency vehicle light or audio accessory while driving or
25 operating a motor vehicle that is not clearly marked as designated for official
26 use under Sec. 4(c)(1) of this Act or is not used to transport patients or victims,
27 or for emergency purposes or calamity-related activities under Sec. 4(c)(2), the
28 owner in case of a private motor vehicle or government official or personnel to
29 whom an official vehicle has been assigned for use, shall be presumed to have
30 permitted the use of such emergency vehicle light or audio accessory.
31
32 c) A person may, subject to the conditions set forth in Sections 4(d) and 4(e) of
33 this Act, as applicable, lawfully use an emergency vehicle light or audio
34 accessory while driving or operating a motor vehicle that is:
35
36 (1) Designated for official use by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP),
37 National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), and Philippine National Police (PNP),
38 Bureau of Corrections (BuCoR), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology
39 (BJMP), and law enforcement agencies, and clearly marked as such,
40 including but not limited to patrol vehicles, armored vehicles, and prisoner's
41 vans; Provided, That vehicles designated for official use by local
42 government officials or personnel shall be subject to issuances by the
43 respective local government units pursuant to Sec. 9 of this Act; or
44
45 (2) Necessary for the transportation of patients or victims, such as medical
46 ambulances, or for emergency purposes or calamity-related activities, such
47 as fire trucks operated by the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) or volunteer
48 firefighter organizations, and clearly marked as such; Provided, That
49 volunteer firefighter organizations must obtain a permit from the BFP prior
50 to using such lights and/or audio accessories; Provided, Further, That

private healthcare facilities or organizations that will operate a private ambulance must obtain a similar permit from the Department of Health (DOH) prior to using such lights and/or audio accessories on any of its registered motor vehicles to be used as ambulances or for patient transport.

- d) A person who is authorized to use an emergency vehicle light while driving or operating a motor vehicle pursuant to Sec. 4(c) of this Act shall not use such light or otherwise put it into operation, unless:
 - (1) The motor vehicle is coming to a stop or halted on a road;
 - (2) It is necessary to do so for the safe operation of the motor vehicle; or
 - (3) The vehicle presents a hazard to other vehicles on a road.
- e) A person who is authorized to use an audio accessory while driving or operating a motor vehicle pursuant to Sec. 4(c) of this Act shall not use such audio accessory, except to warn other road users of the driver's intention to stop, abruptly reduce speed, turn, or change lanes.

SEC. 5. Prohibition on the Sale of Emergency Vehicle Lights and Audio Accessories. –

- a) It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture, import, distribute, sell, market, or promote an emergency vehicle light or audio accessory, except to volunteer firefighter organizations and private healthcare facilities or organizations that will operate a private ambulance upon presentation of the applicable BFP or DOH permit.
- b) All manufacturers, importers, distributors, or sellers of an emergency vehicle light or audio accessory covered under this Act shall maintain records of completed sales permitted under this Section, which shall be open for inspection by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) subject to guidelines to be prescribed for this purpose.

SEC. 6. Implementation. –

- a) The DOTr, through the LTO, shall oversee and ensure the implementation of the provisions of this Act in coordination with the PNP through the Highway Patrol Group (HPG), BFP, DOH, and other concerned agencies. LTO enforcement officers and duly designated enforcement officers from other law enforcement agencies, including local government units (LGUs), shall be responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of this Act.
- b) The LTO shall have the power to issue other policies, rules, regulations, and standards for the effective implementation of this Act, and shall develop guidelines prescribing the procedure to enforce Sections 4 and 5 of this Act within four (4) months from effectivity of this Act. The authority of the LTO under this Subsection shall include the power to regularly publish and update a list of devices that may be considered as emergency vehicle lights and audio accessories that are covered under this Act, with due regard to emerging technologies.

- 1 c) The LTO shall consolidate reports of violations committed by government officials
2 or personnel and make recommendations for the institution of criminal and/or
3 administrative cases against such officials or personnel for violations of the
4 provisions of this Act, to the Office of the Ombudsman or agency, as may be
5 applicable.
6

7 **SEC. 7. Penalties.** - In addition to the penalties provided under existing laws, the
8 following acts shall be penalized:

- 9 a) Any driver in violation of Sections 4(a), 4(d), or 4(e) of this Act shall be fined One
10 Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) for the first offense; Two Thousand Pesos
11 (P2,000.00) for the second offense; Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) and
12 suspension of the driver's license for a period of one (1) year for the third and
13 succeeding offenses: *Provided*, That in case the driver of a private motor vehicle
14 is not the owner of the vehicle, the owner shall be solidarily liable with the driver
15 for the fine/s imposed under this Subsection: *Provided, Further*, That in case a
16 government official or personnel to whom an official vehicle has been designated
17 for use, is not the driver or a passenger of such vehicle, he/she shall be solidarily
18 liable with the driver of the motor vehicle for the fine imposed under this
19 Subsection, in addition to administrative and other sanctions and penalties that
20 may apply under prevailing laws, rules, and regulations, such as but not limited
21 to Republic Act No. 6713, otherwise known as Code of Conduct and Ethical
22 Standards for Public Officials and Employees.
23
- 24 b) Any manufacturer, distributor, importer, retailer, or seller who violates Sec. 5 of
25 this Act shall be punished with a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos
26 (P50,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00)
27 for each and every emergency vehicle light or audio accessory that is
28 manufactured, distributed, imported and/or sold, without prejudice to other
29 penalties imposed under Republic Act No. 7394 otherwise known as the
30 Consumer Act of the Philippines.
31

32 **SEC. 8. Safe Use of Roads for Transporting Patients, Victims, and for Other**
33 **Public Security Purposes.** – The LTO shall conduct a study on road use and traffic
34 management strategies for the safe transportation of patients and victims, or for
35 conducting emergency or disaster response, and make necessary recommendations
36 to Congress for other safety measures: *Provided*, That the LTO shall ensure that such
37 measures safeguard the safety of all types of road users: *Provided, Further*, That such
38 measures shall ensure the highest affordable protection to pedestrians, cyclists, and
39 road users travelling on public or mass transportation vehicles and active modes of
40 transportation.
41

42 The LTO shall conduct the study within one (1) year from the effectivity of this
43 Act, and shall furnish a copy of the results of such study to the President and the
44 Congress of the Philippines.
45

46 **SEC. 9. Local Government Units.** –

- 47 a) LGUs, through appropriate ordinances, shall enforce mechanisms to implement
48 the provisions of this Act, subject to the provisions of Republic Act No. 7160,
49 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, and other applicable

laws, rules, and regulations. The LTO, in coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall provide the technical support to LGUs for the development of such issuances.

- b) LGUs shall regularly report apprehended violators to the LTO for the appropriate recording of demerits pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10930 or An Act Rationalizing and Strengthening the Policy Regarding Driver's Licenses by Extending the Validity Period of Driver's Licenses, and Penalizing Acts in Violation of Its Issuance and Application, Amending for Those Purposes Sec. 23 of Republic Act No. 4136, as Amended by Batas Pambansa Big. 398 and Executive Order No. 1011, Otherwise Known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code, and other applicable laws, rules and regulations, and for purposes of making recommendations for the institution of appropriate administrative and/or criminal proceedings pursuant to Sec. 6 of this Act.

SEC. 10. Information, Education, and Communications Campaign. –

- a) The DOTr, PNP, BFP, DOH, Philippine Information Agency (PIA), in partnership with organizations from the private sector, civil society, and academe shall undertake regular nationwide Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign within six (6) months from the passage of this Act. The IEC campaign shall include information on the emergency vehicle lights and audio accessories that are covered under this Act, and the permitted use of such lights and audio accessories and relevant processes.
- b) The DOTr may call upon any government agency and partner with relevant organizations from the private sector, civil society, and academe, to extend their full support and cooperation for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 11. Annual Report. - The DOTr shall conduct a periodic review of the implementation of this Act, including enforcement by other government agencies and LCDs, and submit an annual report on such review to the President and Congress of the Philippines.

SEC. 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOTr, LTO, PNP-HPG, all concerned agencies, upon prior consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall Issue the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 13. Appropriations. - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the DOTr. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 14. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder hereof or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

1 **SEC. 15. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
2 executive order, letter of instruction, rule, or regulation inconsistent with the provisions
3 of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

4
5 **SEC. 16. Effectivity** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
6 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

7
8 *Approved,*