

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6316



Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR ROAD SAFETY CURRICULUM, CAMPAIGN AND TRAINING,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the Philippines, an average of 32 people die every day as a result of road accidents, according to the UN data.

In 2024, the LTO launched the "Stop Road Crash" advocacy aimed at achieving the goal set by the administration of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, Jr. to reduce road accidents in the country by at least 35% by 2028.¹

Most of these road casualties happen to the younger demographic. According to the WHO, people in the fifteen (15) to nineteen (19) age bracket are the most vulnerable to road traffic fatalities.

Locally, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority reports that road traffic accidents largely affect the eighteen (18) to thirty-four (34) bracket. These casualties count both drivers and collateral victims, such as unsupervised children playing on streets.

A study released by SAFE KIDS Philippines, a global non-governmental organization dedicated to the prevention of unintentional injuries to children, also shows that at least 20 million children are at risk of dying or being injured in road accidents every year.

It says 35,000 Filipino children get injured or die in road accidents each year or about 263 a day. It was estimated that around 3,000 children who had suffered injuries showed that 56 percent of them were hurt in road accidents primarily involving bicycles, motor vehicles, and pedicabs.

¹ <https://lto.gov.ph/news/lto-embarks-on-comprehensive-data-analysis-for-holistic-govt-intervention-on-road-accidents-road-rage/>

Unfortunately, most of these children who are the victim of road accidents belong to poor families.

It appears that road conditions in the Philippines are too much hazardous specially for thousands of children pedestrians roaming the metropolis every day. Such accidents can possibly be attributed to numbers of factors like vehicle over-speeding, undisciplined drivers, road works obstructions, lack of pedestrian lanes, sidewalks given to garbage and vendors, laxity in the enforcement of road safety rules, and lack of proper public education on road safety measures.

Hence, it is important to establish a national road safety education program beginning with the youth.

This bill seeks to integrate basic road safety education to the elementary education curriculum and drivers' education to the junior and senior high curriculum, ensuring that Filipinos are trained to be responsible, vigilant pedestrians—and later on, drivers—from a young age.

In developed countries like Japan, aspiring drivers have to enroll in formal driving schools to be eligible for a license. In other Asian countries, traffic education is instilled in children through training in "traffic cities," microscopic environments where real-life traffic situations are simulated. Children are also taught how to properly react to each situation.

Also, the bill, among other matters, seeks a Road Safety Training for Traffic Enforcers Program, which will guarantee that the nation's roads will be under the reliable protection of highly trained enforcers delivering quality public service.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is urgently sought.



Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan
4th District, Quezon

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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 the "Road Safety Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the well-being and health of the people. It is also the policy of the State to promote awareness and instill consciousness among all Filipinos on the importance of road safety. Towards this end, the State shall educate the general public, especially children, on pertinent road safety standards, regulations and laws in order to promote compliance and prevent the occurrence of motor vehicle road accidents.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

a. *Public roads* refer to roads designed by the national government or local government units as roads for public use such as, but not limited to, national highways, provincial roads, city, municipal and barangay streets; and

b. *Road safety* refers to methods and measures for reducing the risk of a person using the public roads or road networks being killed or seriously injured.

SEC. 4. *Compulsory Teaching of Road Safety and Drivers' Education in All Primary and Secondary Schools.* - Basic Road Safety and Comprehensive Drivers' Education shall be taught in all primary and secondary schools, both public and private. Basic Road Safety shall be integrated in the elementary education curriculum. Comprehensive drivers' education shall be incorporated in the junior and senior high school curricula.

Incorporation of Basic Road Safety Comprehensive Drivers' Education in school curricula shall be implemented on the next academic year following the passage of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Road Safety Curriculum.* - The Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the Department of Transportation (DOTr), University of the Philippines National Center for Transportation Studies (UP-NCTS) and in consultation with road safety advocates and organizations, shall develop a Basic Road Safety Curriculum conducive for elementary school students which shall include, but not be limited to, the rights and responsibilities of pedestrians and commuters in their use of all types of road transportation, road awareness, road signage, and responsible commuting.

The aforementioned agencies and organizations shall, in the same manner, develop a Comprehensive Drivers' Education appropriate for junior and senior school students which shall include, but not be limited to, driving rules and regulations, driving courtesy, driving safety, road hazards, and vehicle safety features.

Supplementary topics related to road safety issues and drivers' education may be added periodically to further enhance the awareness and knowledge of the students.

SEC. 6. *Educational Materials.* - The DepEd shall consult and coordinate with the DOTr, UP-NCTS and road safety advocates and organizations in the writing, printing, and publication of textbooks, manuals and other educational materials to be used in the Road Safety and Drivers' Education subjects.

It shall be mandatory for all primary and secondary schools and educational institutions to keep in their libraries an adequate number of copies of textbooks and other educational materials on Road Safety and Drivers' Education to be issued by the DepEd.

SEC. 7. *Public Road Safety Information Campaign.* - The DOTr and UP-NCTS, in coordination with other government agencies, road safety advocates and organizations, shall establish a road safety information, education and communication campaign to educate the general public and pedestrians, and increase awareness among motor vehicle drivers on proper road courtesy and road safety regulations.

The DOTr shall develop a Road Safety manual which shall, at all times, be accessible through the DOTr website.

SEC. 8. *Road Safety Training for Traffic Enforcers.* - The DOTr through the Land Transportation Office (LTO) shall develop and conduct a Road Safety

Training Program for Traffic Enforcers to educate traffic enforcers in matters relating to road safety, such as but not limited to traffic violations and procedures in apprehensions.

The LTO shall coordinate with other government agencies, local government units and road safety advocates and organizations in the conduct of the training of traffic enforcers.

All traffic enforcers shall undergo the Road Safety Training during the first year of the implementation of this Act and every two years thereafter.

SEC. 9. Creation of Children's Road Safety Council in Every City and Municipality. - A Council to be known as the Children's Road Safety Council is hereby created to plan and carry out activities that shall promote road safety for children to be composed of the city or municipal mayor, as chairman, and two members of the city or municipal council to be elected among themselves, the head of the city or municipal traffic enforcement office, the chief of police, and a representative of the Parents Teachers Association (PTA) organization in the city or municipality to be elected for a term of one year by the presidents of the different PTA organizations in said city or municipality, as members. In the absence of the city or municipal mayor, the vice-mayor shall be the presiding officer of the Council.

SEC. 10. School Children Crossing Patrol, Designated Pedestrian Crossing Lane, Loading and Unloading Area. - Every school shall assign their respective "School Children Crossing Patrol" who shall have the exclusive duty of assisting school children in crossing a designated Pedestrian Crossing Lane leading to a designated Loading & Unloading Area.

All school crossing patrol shall undergo basic training to be administered by the Children's Road Safety Council.

The Council, in close coordination with the barangays, shall identify and designate pedestrian crossing lane and Loading and Unloading Areas for PUVs to be placed at least within one (1) kilometer radius in all schools. The pedestrian crossing lane and the loading and unloading area shall at all times be visible with a signage at any portion of the roadway clearly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines on the road surface or by other markings or signs.

SEC. 11. Sidewalk Clearing. - Sidewalks shall be for exclusive use of pedestrians. For this purpose, sidewalks shall at all times be clear from any form of obstructions that can cause injury to or unduly interfere with any person using the sidewalk. All local government units shall clear or remove or cause to be cleared or removed erected structures whether permanent or temporary from any existing sidewalks.

SEC. 12. *Community Based Children Pedestrian Trainings.* - A practical roadside children pedestrian training scheme shall be implemented in all barangays. For this purpose, a Children Pedestrian Training Coordinator shall be assigned by every barangay to train and disseminate information on, but not limited to, basic practice on pedestrian crossing, road safety precautions, danger awareness, identification of safer pedestrian path and routes to develop in children the understanding, attitudes and skills of a responsible pedestrian.

SEC. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, DOTr, the LTO, the DILG, and the UP-NCTS, in consultation with other road safety advocates and organizations, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 14. *Appropriations.* - The funds needed for the purpose of this Act shall be indicated as line item under the budget of the appropriate agencies under the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 15. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part of this Act shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 18. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,