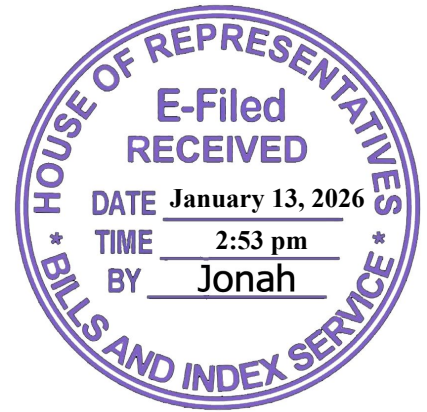


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 7103



INTRODUCED BY REP. PATRICK MICHAEL “PM” D. VARGAS

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A-RENT-A-BIKE PROGRAM IN BARANGAY GULOD,
DISTRICT V, QUEZON CITY AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State provides that it shall systematically integrate sound environmental considerations and the principle of sustainable development into its policy formulation and development programs. To this effect, legislation such as the Republic Act No. 9729, otherwise known as the Climate Change Act of 2009, has been enacted, as well as the Clean Air Act (RA 8749) and Environmental Awareness and Education Act (RA 9512).

While these laws are sound and comprehensive, a Country Environmental Analysis conducted by the World Bank revealed that the country's weak implementation can benefit from strategically devolving policies and programs to the local levels of government¹.

One of the major environmental concerns that needs to be addressed in the country is the high volume of vehicular emissions which has been the major source of air pollution, especially in highly urbanized areas like Metro Manila, which contributes to 90% of the vehicle emissions in the Philippines².

More than their toll on the environment, vehicular emissions have also posed alarming health issues for people. In 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) ranked the Philippines third in air pollution deaths with 45.3 deaths per 100,000 individuals³, which translates to 120,000 Filipinos

¹ World Bank Blogs. 2009 <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/3178>
Accessed on November 28, 2022

² <https://wheels.ph/news/2019/05/30/6220/90-of-ph-vehicle-emissions-come-from-metro-manila/> Accessed on November 28, 2022

³ <https://aethaer.com/news/philippines-ranks-third-air-pollution-deaths-heres-what-needs-be-done> Accessed on November 28, 2022

dying every year.

Although legislators have made several efforts to promote environmentally friendly bills in the form of pushing for equal rights of bikers with other motorists and introducing bike lanes in major roads, the State has not yet made a radical move to strengthen its policies in favor of cleaner and safer air and better commuting modes for Filipinos.

Commuting to work has been the main reason for the high volume of vehicles in major cities nationwide, and this has cost not only the environment but also people's time as well as resources due to the lengthy and expensive commute.

An alternative transport mode that can be truly considered zero-emission is cycling, which could also play an important part in reducing the climate impact of mobility, which currently accounts for 16% of all greenhouse gas emissions⁴. Cycling can also serve as a solution to the perpetual issue of traffic and the horrors of public modes of transportation in the country.

This bill seeks to contribute to possible solutions to the looming atmospheric pollution in highly urbanized areas in the country, such as District V of Quezon City, by establishing a rent-a-bike system in Barangay Gulod. Further, it seeks to provide safe, efficient, and environmentally friendly transportation alternatives to commuters who brave the roads on a daily basis from their home to their workplaces.

With the rent-a-bike program in the barangay supported by the government, commuters will have healthier options for commuting without the need to purchase their own bicycles, whilst maintaining healthy air for Filipinos.

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



REP. PATRICK MICHAEL "PM" D. VARGAS
Fifth District, Quezon City

⁴ World Bank Blogs. 2020 <https://blogs.worldbank.org/transport/bicycles-can-help-us-move-through-pandemic-and-toward-better-future> Accessed on November 28, 2022

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Rent-a-Bike in Barangay Gulod Act”.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to pursue economic growth consistent with its obligation to protect and promote the people’s right to health and instill health consciousness among them while maintaining a clean and healthy environment for its people.

Pursuant thereto, it shall endeavor to promote and encourage among its citizens an alternative mode of transportation mechanism that shall have long-term positive environmental and health impact.

SECTION 3. Definition. – As used in this Act, the term “rent-a-bike” shall refer to a system of bicycle rental in a city or municipality where members of the community can rent a bicycle on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis to use as their mode of transportation for work, school, or leisure purposes.

SECTION 4. Establishment of Rent-a-Bike in Barangay Gulod. – The Barangay shall establish a rent-a-bike mechanism that shall make available bicycles for rent to all commuters within their locality.

SECTION 5. Objectives of Rent-a-Bike Services – The Rent-a-Bike Services shall ensure that:

1. Renters in the community can avail of bicycle rental on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis for transportation for work, school, or leisure purposes.
2. Bicycles for rent are well-maintained in running condition and equipped with basic safety features.
3. Renters shall be provided with complete safety gear with every bicycle rented.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Agency.* – The Rent-a-Bike services shall be implemented by the barangay in partnership with the City Traffic and Transport Management Department (TTMD).

The barangay and TTMD shall design the framework for the bicycle rental services, which shall include appropriate monitoring and evaluation design to ensure proper implementation and sustainability of the service.

The barangay shall be accountable for the operations and maintenance of the services which shall include the employment of personnel for the daily operations, security, and periodic maintenance of the services.

SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* – The funds for the establishment of rent-a-bike services, including its maintenance and operation, shall be appropriated from the barangay allocation and shall be included in the General Appropriations Act as part of the budget of the Quezon City Local Government Unit. The barangay, in consultation with TTMD, shall set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as an annual counterpart fund to support the maintenance and operation of the Center herein established.

SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The barangay, in consultation with the TTMD, along with other concerned government agencies and nongovernmental entities, shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act not later than one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* –All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,