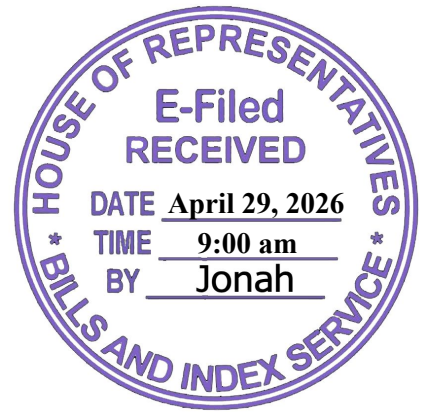




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 8991

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Motorcycle taxis have become an integral part of the country’s urban transportation landscape, providing commuters with a flexible and efficient alternative in congested cities. As their use continues to expand, so too does the State’s responsibility to ensure that public convenience does not compromise passenger safety.

While existing laws and regulations address general road safety and vehicle registration, there remains no clear statutory requirement mandating standardized passenger safety accessories for motorcycles used in passenger-for-hire operations. As a result, safety practices vary widely among operators and platforms, leaving passengers exposed to unnecessary risks related to balance, stability, and sudden movement during travel.

This bill seeks to address this gap by requiring all motorcycles used for motorcycle taxi services to be equipped with basic, standardized passenger safety accessories. These include secure rear handholds or safety rails and back-support devices such as top boxes with integrated backrests or equivalent attachments approved by the Land Transportation Office (LTO). These measures are intended to enhance passenger stability, reduce the likelihood of falls or loss of balance, and improve overall riding confidence.

The measure recognizes the operational realities of motorcycle taxis by tasking the Department of Transportation (DOTr), through the LTO and in coordination with the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) and other relevant stakeholders and agencies, to develop technical standards that ensure safety accessories do not compromise vehicle balance, maneuverability, or compliance with existing road safety regulations.

The bill further assigns responsibility to digital platform operators to ensure compliance among their partner riders, reflecting the role of platforms in regulating access to motorcycle taxi services. This shared accountability framework promotes consistent enforcement while avoiding undue regulatory burden on individual riders.

A reasonable compliance period is provided to allow existing operators to install the required accessories, while ensuring that newly accredited units meet safety standards prior to operation. Lastly, the measure mandates the government to provide such passenger safety accessories, without prejudice to operators shouldering it, to ensure that this requirement will not be a burden anymore to the working class of motorcycle taxi owners or drivers.

By institutionalizing minimum passenger safety requirements for motorcycle taxis, this bill promotes safer urban mobility, protects the riding public, improves confidence of the passengers and ensures that innovation in transportation services is matched by clear and enforceable safety standards.

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


EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA



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HOUSE BILL NO. 8991

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

AN ACT
REQUIRING THE INSTALLATION OF STANDARDIZED PASSENGER SAFETY
ACCESSORIES ON MOTORCYCLES USED FOR TRANSPORT NETWORK
VEHICLES SERVICES 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 “*Motorcycle Taxi*
2 *Passenger Safety Accessories Act.*”
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 promote the safety, security, and welfare of the riding public by ensuring that
6 motorcycles used for passenger transport are equipped with standardized safety
7 accessories that enhance passenger stability, protection, and confidence during travel.
8

9 The State recognizes the growing role of motorcycle taxis in urban mobility and
10 affirms that public convenience shall not come at the expense of passenger safety.
11

12 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act:
13

- 14 a. *Motorcycle Taxi or Mototaxi* refers to a motorcycle used for hire to transport
15 passengers, whether operated independently or through a digital platform.
16
- 17 b. *Transport Network Vehicle Service (TNVS) for Motorcycles* refers to a system
18 that uses an online-enabled platform or application to connect passengers
19 with motorcycle riders for compensation.
20
- 21 c. *Passenger Safety Accessories* refer to standardized motorcycle attachments
22 designed to enhance passenger safety and stability, including but not limited
23 to rear handholds or safety rails, top boxes with backrests, side handles, or
24 other devices approved by the Land Transportation Office (LTO).
25

- 1 d. *Platform Operators* refer to entities providing digital platforms that facilitate
2 motorcycle-for-hire services, including but not limited to Move It, Joyride and
3 Angkas.
4

5 **SEC. 4. Mandatory Installation of Passenger Safety Accessories.** – All
6 motorcycles used for motorcycle taxi or motorcycle TNVS operations shall be
7 equipped with passenger safety accessories that meet the standards prescribed under
8 this Act.
9

10 At a minimum, such accessories shall include:

- 11
12 a. A secure rear handhold or safety rail accessible to the passenger; and
13
14 b. A back-support device, such as a top box with an integrated backrest or
15 an equivalent safety attachment approved by the LTO.
16
17 c. No motorcycle shall be accredited or allowed to operate as a motorcycle
18 taxi unless it complies with these requirements.
19

20 **SEC. 5. Standards and Technical Specifications.** – The Department of
21 Transportation (DOTr), through the Land Transportation Office (LTO), in coordination
22 with the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) and other
23 relevant stakeholders and agencies, shall promulgate the technical standards,
24 specifications, and installation guidelines for passenger safety accessories.
25

26 Such standards shall ensure that accessories:

- 27
28 a. Do not compromise vehicle balance or maneuverability;
29 b. Are securely installed and regularly maintained;
30 c. Are compatible with existing motorcycle safety regulations; and
31 d. Sensitive to the comfort of passengers of different sexes.
32

33 **SEC. 6. Responsibilities of Platform Operators.** – Platform operators shall
34 ensure that all partner riders comply with the requirements of this Act as a condition
35 for accreditation and continued access to the platform.
36

37 Platform operators shall not dispatch or allow bookings for motorcycles that fail
38 to meet the prescribed safety accessory standards.
39

40 **SEC. 7. Compliance Period.** – All existing motorcycle taxi owners, driver and
41 operators shall comply with this Act within one (1) year from its effectivity.
42

43 All newly accredited motorcycle taxi units shall comply prior to commencement
44 of operations.
45

46 **SEC. 8. Funding and Cost Responsibility.** – The cost of the passenger safety
47 accessory and its installment upon the motorcycle taxi shall not be borne by the owner
48 or driver. The government through the LTO shall provide motorcycle taxi owners or
49 drivers with such passenger safety accessories. However, nothing in this Act shall

1 prevent platform operators from providing equipment assistance or incentive programs
2 to promote compliance.

3
4 **SEC. 9. Penalties.** – Any motorcycle taxi owner, driver or operator found
5 operating without the required passenger safety accessories shall be subject to
6 appropriate penalties, including fines, suspension, or revocation of accreditation, as
7 may be determined by the LTO and LTFRB.

8
9 Platform operators that knowingly allow non-compliant motorcycles to operate
10 shall be subject to administrative sanctions.

11
12 **SEC. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days from
13 the effectivity of this Act, the DOTr shall issue the implementing rules and regulations
14 necessary for its effective implementation.

15
16 **SEC. 11. Separability Clause.** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
17 unconstitutional, the remainder hereof or any provisions not affected thereby shall
18 remain in force and effect.

19
20 **SEC. 12. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
21 executive order, letter of instruction, rule, or regulation inconsistent with the provisions
22 of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

23 **SEC. 13. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

25
26 *Approved,*