

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session



House Bill No. **9654**

Introduced by **HONORABLE LORETO "AMBEN" S. AMANTE**
3rd District of Laguna

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGAINST IMPAIRED DRIVING,
AMENDING FOR SUCH PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10586, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVING ACT OF 2013,"
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Road safety remains a serious public health and governance concern in the Philippines. Alcohol consumption continues to contribute to preventable deaths, injuries, domestic violence, economic hardship, and road crashes. Available data show widespread alcohol use among both adolescents and adults, including a high incidence of binge drinking.

Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs remains a major cause of traffic-related injuries and fatalities. The State has long penalized impaired driving, and in 2013, it enacted Republic Act No. 10586, otherwise known as the "Anti-Drunk and Drugged Driving Act of 2013," to specifically criminalize driving under the influence of alcohol, dangerous drugs, and similar substances and to institutionalize mandatory field sobriety testing, chemical testing, and confirmatory testing where applicable.

However, implementation challenges persist. Field observations and operational constraints continue to reveal structural weaknesses such as inadequate breath analyzers and drug-testing kits, limited roadside operations, and insufficient training and capacity among traffic enforcers. These gaps contribute to under-detection of violations and weaken the effectiveness of apprehension and prosecution mechanisms contemplated by the law, particularly the statutory design that "driving under the influence of alcohol" is determined through a breath analyzer test measuring blood alcohol concentration (BAC).

Jurisprudence underscores why objective, science-based enforcement is critical. In *Sydeco v. People*, the Supreme Court emphasized that “smelling of liquor/alcohol” and being “under the influence” are different concepts, and noted that the legal landscape changed with the enactment of R.A. No. 10586 which defines DUI in relation to BAC established through a breath analyzer test.

Moreover, the term “drunk driving” may unintentionally create the impression that some level of alcohol consumption prior to driving is acceptable, weakening public understanding that **impairment—at any level that compromises safe driving—endangers public safety**.

Accordingly, there is a need to strengthen Republic Act No. 10586 to improve enforcement, address implementation gaps, and enhance deterrence against impaired driving.

This measure introduces the following reforms:

1. **Renaming the law as the “Anti-Impaired Driving Act.”** This emphasizes that impairment while driving—whether due to alcohol, dangerous drugs, or similar substances—poses unacceptable risks to the public and should be deterred.
2. **Requiring nationwide acquisition and maintenance of adequate breath analyzers and drug-testing kits**, supported by regular needs assessments and periodic reviews by the LTO and PNP. This directly supports the law’s testing architecture, including mandatory testing following failed field sobriety tests and chemical testing for drivers involved in accidents resulting in death or injury.
3. **Institutionalizing wider and more consistent enforcement through mandatory deputation of traffic enforcers**, including local traffic enforcement officers and other authorized personnel, to address operational limitations and expand coverage.
4. **Imposing stiffer penalties and stricter license sanctions** to enhance deterrence and accountability, especially where impaired driving results in injury or death, consistent with the law’s policy of treating impaired driving as a serious public safety offense.
5. **Strengthening public awareness** by reinforcing the nationwide information campaign framework and institutionalizing observances to promote responsible driving and road safety.
6. **Mandating regular random terminal inspections and alcohol/drug testing for public utility drivers** in recognition of the heightened risks posed by

commercial transport operations and the law's existing authority for terminal inspections and quick random drug tests.

7. **Providing a clear appropriations and funding mechanism** to support sustained enforcement, equipment procurement, and operational requirements, aligned with the law's reliance on adequate equipment and testing capability as essential to effective implementation.

These reforms aim to establish a more effective, well-resourced, and accountable system for preventing impaired driving, reducing road crashes, protecting lives, and promoting public safety.

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



HON. LORETO S. AMANTE

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

Section 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 10586 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the [~~“Anti-Drunk and Drugged Driving Act of 2013”~~] “ANTI-IMPAIRED DRIVING ACT OF 2026”.

Section 2. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 10586 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 9. ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT. – WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) SHALL ACQUIRE AND MAINTAIN AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF BREATH ANALYZERS AND DRUG-TESTING KITS TO BE UTILIZED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND DEPUTIZED LOCAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS NATIONWIDE.

THE NUMBER OF BREATH ANALYZERS AND DRUG-TESTING KITS CONSIDERED 'ADEQUATE' SHALL BE DETERMINED BASED ON A NEEDS ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED JOINTLY BY THE LTO AND PNP, IN CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT TRAFFIC SAFETY EXPERTS AND PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES. THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT SHALL

CONSIDER, AMONG OTHERS, THE NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL, HISTORICAL DATA ON ROAD CRASHES INVOLVING INTOXICATION, AND GEOGRAPHIC AND POPULATION NEEDS PER REGION.

THE ACQUISITION AND MAINTENANCE OF THESE DEVICES SHALL BE A CONTINUOUS PROCESS, SUBJECT TO PERIODIC REVIEW OF LTO AND PNP EVERY TWO (2) YEARS TO ENSURE THE SUFFICIENCY AND FUNCTIONALITY OF THE EQUIPMENT.

FUNDING FOR THE ACQUISITION, MAINTENANCE, AND PERIODIC UPGRADE OF THESE DEVICES SHALL BE SOURCED FROM THE ANNUAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS OF THE LTO AND PNP, SUPPLEMENTED, IF NECESSARY, BY GRANTS, DONATIONS, OR SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS.

THE LTO AND PNP SHALL DIVIDE COSTS PROPORTIONALLY BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL EACH AGENCY DEPLOYS FOR ROAD SAFETY ENFORCEMENT DUTIES AND THE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC INCIDENTS MANAGED IN THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS.

THE LTO AND PNP SHALL PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS DETAILING THE NUMBER OF BREATH ANALYZERS AND DRUG-TESTING KITS ACQUIRED, THE DISTRIBUTION ACROSS REGIONS, AND ANY CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED IN EQUIPMENT DEPLOYMENT AND MAINTENANCE."

~~[Within four (4) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) shall acquire sufficient breath analyzers and drug testing kits to be utilized by law enforcement officers and deputized local traffic enforcement officers nationwide giving priority to areas with high reported occurrences of accidents. For purposes of acquiring these equipment and for the training seminars indicated in Section 10 hereof, the LTO shall utilize the Special Road Safety Fund allotted for this purpose as provided under Section 7 of Republic Act No. 8794, entitled: "An Act Imposing a Motor Vehicle User's Charge on Owners of All Types of Motor Vehicles and for Other Purposes". Additional yearly appropriations for the purchase of breath analyzers and drug testing kits shall be provided annually under the General Appropriations Act.]"~~

Section 3. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 10586 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Section 10. Deputation. The LTO **[may]** **SHALL** deputize traffic enforcement officers of the PNP, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA),

TOLL OPERATORS, and THE LOCAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF cities and municipalities in order to enforce the provisions of this Act.

FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE AFOREMENTIONED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS MAY ESTABLISH OR DESIGNATE A BUREAU OR UNIT FOR THE DEPUTIZED TRAFFIC ENFORCERS WHO ARE CHARGED TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT.

Section 4. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 10586 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“Section 12. Penalties. – A driver found to have been driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, dangerous drugs and/or other similar substances, as provided for under Section 5 of this Act, shall be penalized as follows:

(a) If the violation of Section 5 did not result in **SERIOUS** physical injuries or homicide, **OR RESULTED IN LESS SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURIES AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE 265 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, OR SLIGHT PHYSICAL INJURIES AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE 266 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE,** the penalty of [~~three (3) months~~] **TWELVE (12) MONTHS** imprisonment, and a fine ranging from [~~Twenty~~] **FIFTY** thousand pesos [~~(Php20,000.00)] (PHP 50,000)~~ to [~~Eighty~~] **ONE HUNDRED** thousand pesos [~~(Php80,000.00)] (PHP 100,000)~~ shall be imposed;

(b) If the violation of Section 5 resulted in **SERIOUS** physical injuries, the penalty provided in **IN THE APPLICABLE PARAGRAPH OF** Article 263 of the Revised Penal Code, **IN ITS MAXIMUM PERIOD,** or the penalty provided in the [~~next~~] **IMMEDIATELY** preceding subparagraph, whichever is higher, and a fine ranging from One hundred **FIFTY** thousand pesos [~~(Php100,000.00)] (PHP 150,000)~~ to **THREE** [~~Two~~] hundred thousand pesos [~~(Php200,000.00)] (PHP 300,000)~~ shall be imposed;

(c) If the violation of Section 5 resulted in homicide, the penalty **OF RECLUSION TEMPORAL** provided in Article 249 of the Revised Penal Code, **IN ITS MAXIMUM PERIOD,** and a fine ranging from [~~Three~~]

FIVE hundred thousand pesos [~~(Php300,000.00)~~] (PHP 500,000) to [~~Five hundred thousand pesos (Php500,000.00)~~] **ONE MILLION PESOS (PHP 1,000,000)** shall be imposed; and

(d) The nonprofessional driver's license of any person found to have violated Section 5 of this Act shall also be confiscated and suspended for a period of [~~twelve (12)~~] **TWENTY-FOUR (24)** months for the first conviction and perpetually revoked for the second conviction. The professional driver's license of any person found to have violated Section 5 of this Act shall also be confiscated and perpetually revoked for the first conviction. The perpetual revocation of a driver's license shall disqualify the person from being granted any kind of driver's license thereafter. **PROVIDED, THAT DURING THE PENDENCY OF THE CASE, THE DRIVER'S LICENSE SHALL BE CONFISCATED AND SHALL BE TURNED OVER TO LTO. PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT CONFISCATED DRIVER'S LICENSES SHALL BE RELEASED BY LTO ONLY AFTER FINAL DISPOSITION OR LAWFUL ORDER OF THE COURTS.**

xxx"

Section 5. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 10586 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Section 14. Nationwide Information Campaign. - Within [~~one (1) month~~] **SIX (6) MONTHS** from the promulgation of the implementing rules and regulations as provided under Section 17 hereof, the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), in coordination with the LTO, the local government units (LGUs) and other concerned agencies, shall conduct information, education, and communication (IEC) campaign for the attainment of the objectives of this Act. **LIKEWISE, THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER SHALL BE DECLARED AS THE NATIONAL ANTI-IMPAIRED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH TO PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE DRIVING AND ROAD SAFETY.**"

Section 6. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 10586 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Section 15. Nationwide Random Terminal Inspection, [~~and~~] **Quick Random Drug Tests, AND ALCOHOL BREATH TESTS.** - The LTO shall **REGULARLY** conduct random terminal inspections and quick random drug tests of public utility drivers. **IN CASE A DRIVER OR CONDUCTOR WAS**

FOUND POSITIVE FOR DRUG USE, OR WAS FOUND INTOXICATED, APPROPRIATE ACTION SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN AND THE OPERATOR SHALL LIKEWISE BE MADE LIABLE IF FOUND TO BE NON-COMPLIANT WITH THE GUIDELINES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) ON DRUG-FREE WORKPLACES AND OTHER RELATED GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS. The cost of such tests shall be defrayed by the LTO."

Section 7. A new section designated as Section 18 of Republic Act No. 10586 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SECTION 18. APPROPRIATIONS. - THE INITIAL AMOUNT OF PHP 1,600,000,000 (ONE BILLION AND SIX HUNDRED MILLION PESOS) IS HEREBY APPROPRIATED UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTR) THROUGH THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT. THEREAFTER, SUCH AMOUNT NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE APPROPRIATED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT."

Section 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Transportation (DOTr), through the Land Transportation Office (LTO), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

Section 9. *Repealing Clause.* - All other laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations, or part thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby likewise repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 10. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 11. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days upon publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,