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8

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5648

BY REPRESENTATIVES SARMIENTO (C.), VELARDE, PIMENTEL, SANTOSRECTO, TAN (A.), PINEDA, ROMERO, ACOP, FERRIOL-PASCUAL
SUANSING (E.), SUANSING (H.), ANDAYA, REVILLA, SARMIENTO
(E.M.), ROBES, ERICE, UNICO, ONG (H.), VIOLAGO, BAGATSING,
LOPEZ (C.), VARGAS, OLIVAREZ, ABU, SAMBAR, PANCHO, MANALO,
VILLAFUERTE, CASTELO, AUMENTADO, ONG (E.), ARENAS, GONZALES
(A.D.), RODRIGUEZ (M.), SY-ALVARADO, BOLILIA, TAMBUNTING,
PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, CUEVA, ABAYON, GARCIA (G.), NIETO AND
LOYOLA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 238

AN ACT RATIONALIZING AND STRENGTHENING THE POLICY REGARDING DRIVER'S LICENSE, PROVIDING FOR A FIVE (5)-YEAR VALIDITY AND PENALIZING ACTS IN VIOLATION OF ITS ISSUANCE AND APPLICATION

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

- SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. It shall be the policy of the State to establish a system that promotes the ease of access to government services and efficient transportation regulation favorable to the people.
- SEC. 2. Validity of Driver's License. Following the effectivity of this Act, the validity of professional and non-professional driver's license shall be up to a period of five (5) years, subject to such restrictions as may be imposed by the Land Transportation Office (LTO).
 - SEC. 3. Establishment of Stricter Rules Before the Issuance of Driver's License. The LTO shall promulgate prerequisites and guidelines before the

grant of driver's licenses to ensure that these are issued only to deserving applicants with sufficient driving skills and knowledge on road safety and proper road courtesy.

Toward this end, the conduct of theoretical and practical examinations, among others, must sufficiently measure the competency of drivers and must be designed to the type of license applied for and its corresponding restrictions: *Provided*, That for professional drivers, the tests must be appropriate to the vehicle and type of service the applicant intends to operate.

SEC. 4. Penalties. – Without prejudice to the penalties provided under Republic Act No. 4136 or the "Land Transportation and Traffic Code", the Revised Penal Code and other applicable laws, the penalties corresponding to the following acts shall be imposed by the LTO:

- (a) Any officer who, in any manner, issues a driver's license without the necessary examinations, connives with the applicant for the irregular issuance of a license, or who negligently issues a driver's license to an unqualified applicant shall suffer a penalty of removal from the service with all the accessory penalties attached thereto;
- (b) A fine in the amount of two hundred thousand pesos (Php200,000.00) shall be imposed upon an applicant for a driver's license found to have committed any of the following acts:
- 21 (1) Willful misrepresentation with respect to material information in 22 one's application;
 - (2) Connivance with the officer in the irregular conduct of examination or issuance of license;
 - (3) Falsification of documents; or
 - (4) Cheating during examinations.

Any or all of the acts abovementioned shall be punished whether or not a license was granted by reason of such misrepresentation, connivance, falsification or cheating.

	In addition to the abovementioned fine, the driver's license of an
?	erring applicant, if one is granted by reason of such misrepresentation,
}	connivance, falsification or cheating, shall be revoked, and the applicant shall
ļ	be prohibited from applying for a period of two (2) years. The repetition of
;	such offense shall warrant the perpetual disqualification from being granted a
	driver's license in addition to the fine above stated; and

(c) A holder of a driver's license who acts in violation of the provisions of Republic Act No. 4136 and other existing traffic laws shall suffer corresponding penalties as may be provided by law and other issuances.

 In case of death or physical injuries resulting to the loss of any part of the victim's body or the use thereof, insanity, imbecility, impotence or blindness, or incapacity to work for more than ninety (90) days, the license of the offending driver shall be revoked and he shall be perpetually disqualified from holding a driver's license, after a finding by the court that such driver was negligent or at fault.

The Department of Transportation (DOTr), through the LTO, shall adopt and publish a graduated schedule of violations and penalties in a newspaper of general circulation or in their official website. In addition, the LTO shall publish on its official website a list showing the names and circumstances of persons who are perpetually disqualified from being issued a driver's license.

The DOTr and the LTO shall, in coordination with the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) and other concerned agencies and private stakeholders, aggressively and regularly conduct a nationwide information, education and communication (IEC) campaign on road safety, including the list of measures implemented pursuant to and violations punishable under this Act.

SEC. 5. Review of Penalties. - The Secretary of the DOTr, upon the recommendation of the LTO, after due hearing and publication, shall have the

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1	power to increase or adjust the fines herein imposed once every five (5) years:
2	Provided, That in no case shall the increase be more than five percent (5%) of
3	the fine sought to be increased.
4	SEC. 6. Research and Development The LTO shall conduct
5	continuing research and development to ensure the efficient administration of
6	the drivers' licensing system.
7	SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations Within sixty (60) days
8	from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOTr, with the assistance
9	of the LTO and the LTFRB, shall promulgate the implementing rules and
10	regulations necessary to ensure the effective implementation of this Act.
ĺ	SEC. 8. Separability Clause If any provision or part hereof is held
12	invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or provision not otherwise
13	affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
14	SEC. 9. Repealing Clause All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules
15	and regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby
16	repealed or amended accordingly.
17	SEC. 10. Effectivity This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
18	its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
	Approved,
	and the state of