

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



23 MAR -2 P4 :43

SENATE
S. No. 1959

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

AN ACT
MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF TIMERS IN TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND
PEDESTRIAN LIGHTS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Traffic lights and pedestrian lights are used to signal the flow of vehicles and pedestrians along the road. These are important components of the traffic management system as it helps in regulating the movements in the road. Traffic lights typically have three signals, which convey important information to drivers and pedestrians through the use of colors and symbols.

Traffic lights are indeed helpful. However, motorists and pedestrians have problems because of the absence of the countdown timers of some traffic lights. The absence of timers make it difficult to the motorists and pedestrians to anticipate the color alert changes, making it challenging for them to properly response to the signal.

To reduce the confusion, risk of accidents, and possible violations, it is deemed proper to improve the traffic management system by providing clear signals to motorists and pedestrians.

Thus, this bill seeks to mandate the installation of traffic and pedestrian lights in urban and rural areas. Timers shall be designed to display the time remaining until the traffic light changes, and shall be clearly visible to drivers and pedestrians.

Given the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

MARK A. VILLAR

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

1 Sec. 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Traffic Lights and*
2 *Pedestrian Lights Timer Act*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the importance of efficient
4 and safe road networks in promoting economic growth, improving quality of life, and
5 reducing traffic congestion. It is the policy of the State to promote road safety and
6 reduce traffic congestion through the use of innovative technologies, including the
7 installation of timers in traffic lights.

8 Sec. 3. *Definition.* – For the purpose of this Act, the following terms shall mean:

9 (a) "*Pedestrian Light*" refers to a signal device that is used to inform pedestrians
10 when to cross a road;

11 (b) "*Traffic Light*" refers to any signal device used to control the flow of traffic
12 at a road intersection;

13 (c) "*Timer*" refers to a device that measures and displays the duration of a
14 period of time.

15 Sec. 4. *Installation of Timers in Traffic and Pedestrian Lights.* — The
16 Department of Transportation shall require the installation of timers in all traffic and
17 pedestrian lights in urban and rural areas, within one (1) year from the effectivity of

1 this Act. The timers shall be designed to display the time remaining until the traffic
2 light changes, and shall be clearly visible to drivers and pedestrians.

3 *Sec. 5. Maintenance of Timers.* — The Department of Public Works and
4 Highways, Department of Interior and Local Government, in coordination with Local
5 Government Units, shall ensure the maintenance and proper functioning of the timers
6 in traffic lights, and shall take appropriate action to address any malfunctions or
7 failures.

8 *Sec. 6. Penalty for Non-Compliance.* — Any person, entity, or local government
9 unit that fails to comply with the provisions of this Act shall be subject to a fine of not
10 less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00) but not more than One Hundred
11 Thousand Pesos (Php 100,000.00) for each traffic light that does not have a
12 functioning timer.

13 *Sec. 7. Appropriations.* — The amount necessary to implement the provisions
14 of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

15 *Sec. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — The Department of Public
16 Works and Highways, Department of Interior and Local Government, and Local
17 Government Units, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the
18 effective implementation of this Act.

19 *Sec. 9. Separability Clause.* — If any provisions of this Act are declared
20 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions thereof shall not be affected.

21 *Sec. 10. Repealing Clause.* — All laws inconsistent with this Act are hereby
22 repealed or modified accordingly.

23 *Sec. 11. Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

25 *Approved,*