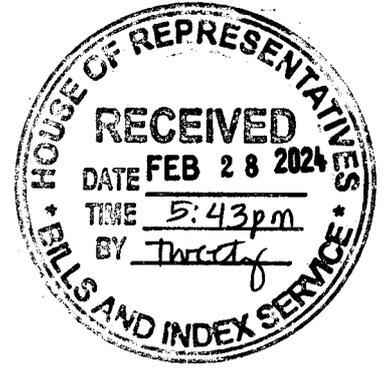


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 9997



Introduced by Representatives JOSEPHINE VERONIQUE R. LACSON-NOEL
and EDCEL C. LAGMAN

**AN ACT INTEGRATING ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM OF
THE BASIC EDUCATION (K TO 12) PROGRAM**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Road traffic injury is a major public health concern. It kills 1.35 million people around the world annually and is among the top ten leading causes of death. Developing countries such as the Philippines bear the heaviest burden and are disproportionately affected by road traffic injuries. According to the World Health Organization, low- and middle-income countries account for more than 90% of road traffic deaths despite having only 54% of the world's registered vehicles¹.

Children and youth are most vulnerable to road traffic injuries as it is the leading cause of death for ages 5-29 years old², this vulnerability is further exacerbated by children who have long commutes to and from school, and children with disabilities are at an increased risk when traveling on roads not supported by disability-inclusive access signs.

This situation is reflected in the Philippines due to the increasing rate of deaths cause by road traffic accidents in the past decade with 6,869 deaths recorded in 2006 and 11,360 in 2017³. Road traffic injury also has severe consequences on social and economic outcomes, not only by the loss of life affecting families and the communities but also by the productivity loss affecting the nation.

As part of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, integrating road safety education in the school curricula concretizes the country's commitment

¹ WHO, *Global status report on road safety 2016*.

² WHO, *Global status report on road safety 2018*.

³ K. Sy, 'IN NUMBERS: Road crash incidents in the Philippines', Rappler.

to the ideals of Sustainable Development Goal 3.6 in achieving the target to halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents by 2020. This is also in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 24 in ensuring *that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of child health and nutrition, the advantages of breastfeeding, hygiene and environmental sanitation and the prevention of accidents.*⁴

The proposed measure seeks to reduce the number of injuries and fatalities caused by road traffic accidents by integrating road safety education in the school curricula. The bill seeks to motivate the children and the youth to become responsible road users by equipping them with basic road safety knowledge to prevent road safety accidents and fulfilling the Philippine's commitment to achieving the SDG 3.6. As classes have resumed its face-to-face modality, it is imperative to prepare the roads, and instill discipline among all road users, for stronger protection of children.

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



JOSEPHINE VERONIQUE R. LACSON-NOEL
Representative
Lone District, Malabon



EDCEL C. LAGMAN
Representative
1st District, Albay

⁴ UN Commission on Human Rights, *Convention on the Rights of the Child*

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*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 “Road Safety Education in
2 Schools Act.”

3
4 **Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby the policy of the State to ensure the
5 safety and security of its citizens through road safety infrastructures, legislations and
6 programs. Further, the State recognizes that road accidents and deaths are urgent
7 national health and development concerns that gravely affect children and the
8 economy of the State.

9
10 As a signatory to the United Nations 2030 Agenda, the State remains committed to
11 fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals particularly SDG 3.6 on Good Health and
12 Well-being and to halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic
13 accidents by 2020. Towards this end, the State shall establish an inclusive mechanism
14 that instills road safety consciousness in students and ensures their safety in and
15 outside of the school.

16
17 **Section 3. Road safety education,** which includes but not limited to pedestrian safety,
18 car passenger safety, driving safety, safety near roads, and traffic signage, is hereby
19 required to be part of the curriculum for the K to 12 Program.

20
21
22 **Section 4. Definition of Terms.** – For the purpose of this Act:

23
24 (a) “Basic road safety” – refers to the rights and responsibilities of pedestrians
25 and commuters in their use of all types of roads used for transportation in

26 order to reduce the incidence of road accidents. It shall include, but not be
27 limited to, road awareness, road signages, responsible commuting, and the
28 responsibilities of pedestrians;

29 (b) "Comprehensive Drivers Education" – refers to the rights and
30 responsibilities of drivers in their use of all types of roads used for
31 transportation in order to reduce incidence of road accidents. It shall include
32 but not be limited to basic road safety and its components, education on
33 pertinent laws and rules and regulations on driving, traffic signages, driving
34 safety, and car passenger safety;

35 (c) "K to 12" – refers to the enhanced basic education program created under
36 Republic Act No. 10533, otherwise known as the "Enhanced Basic
37 Education Act of 2013".

38 (d) "Children with disabilities" – refers to persons below 18 years old who have
39 long term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments, which in
40 interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective
41 participation in society on an equal basis with others, such as but not limited
42 to children with physical or orthopedic disability; intellectual disability,
43 learning disability, communication disability including deafness and
44 hardness of hearing; visual disability, or psychosocial disability.
45

46 **Section 5. *Integration into the Curriculum.*** – Basic road safety and comprehensive
47 driver's education are hereby integrated into the curriculum of the K to 12 program.
48 Basic road safety shall be made part of the elementary curriculum. Comprehensive
49 driver's education shall be made part of the junior and senior high school [and higher
50 education curricula] ?.

51
52 **Section 6. *Teaching Modules.*** – The scope of the teaching modules for each grade
53 level shall be identified by the Department of Education (DepEd), taking into
54 consideration the age and the level of comprehension of the students.
55

56 The UP-National Center for Transportation Studies Foundation, Inc. shall assist
57 the DepEd in designing the teaching modules on road safety and traffic education.
58

59 **Section 7. *Educational Materials.*** – all grade schools and high schools shall keep in
60 their libraries an adequate number of copies of the textbook, primer and leaflet on road
61 safety and traffic education prescribed by the DepEd. The adequacy of the number of
62 books shall also be determined by the DepEd.
63

64 **Section 8. *Road Safety Facilities and Traffic Signs.*** – to enable students to recognize
65 signs and use available road safety facilities properly.
66

67 **Section 9. *Funding Source.*** – The funds needed for the purpose of implementing this
68 Act shall be sourced from the Road Safety Fund which is 7.5% of the Motor Vehicle's
69 User's Charge.
70

71 **Section 10. *Implementation.*** – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act,
72 the Department of Education in coordination with the Department of Transportation
73 shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to govern the effective
74 implementation of this Act.
75

76 **Section 11. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules and
77 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
78 repealed or modified accordingly.

79
80 **Section 12. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
81 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
82 provisions hereof.

83
84 **Section 13. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
85 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general.