

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4409



Introduced by **Representative CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide public transportation drivers emergency assistance during fortuitous malfunctions or breakdowns while their vehicle is on the road.

Public transportation vehicles travelling throughout the urban and rural roads are subject to many abuses from the dangers of monsoon floods and tropical heat to rough roads and pot holes. Despite best efforts to maintain a public transportation vehicle's condition, the vehicle may still suffer unforeseeable malfunctions or breakdown while traveling their respective routes. Even though the malfunction or breakdown is a fortuitous event, public transportation drivers are still apprehended when their public transport vehicle suffers an unintended malfunction or a breakdown that cannot be attributable to their own fault. To make matters worse, the vehicle is even sometimes towed, impounded, and charged a large fine.

With the approval of this bill, any person who is driving a public transportation vehicle who encounters a fortuitous malfunction or breakdown without their fault while on the road will not be apprehended but instead be given immediate emergency assistance.

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


CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA

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AN ACT
PROVIDING THAT PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLE DRIVERS WHO
ENCOUNTER FORTUITOUS VEHICULAR MALFUNCTIONS OR
BREAKDOWNS WHILE ON DUTY SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH
IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, AND SHALL NOT BE
CONSIDERED AS A TRAFFIC OFFENSE.

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

SECTION 1. Any public utility vehicle driver who encounters fortuitous vehicular malfunctions or breaks down without their fault while on duty shall be given immediate emergency assistance, and shall not be considered as a traffic offense.

Sec. 2. For purposes of this bill, the term "fortuitous vehicular malfunctions" covers incidents such as flat tires, overheating of the engine, brake malfunction, mechanical problems and battery faults, and similar instances where there is a mechanical malfunction or breakdown is without the fault of the driver or operator.

SEC. 3. Violations not covered by mechanical malfunction shall not be exempted from apprehension.

SEC. 4. The Department of Transportation, in coordination with the Land Transportation Office and the Metro Manila Development Authority, shall, within six (6) months after the approval of this Act, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. This act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,