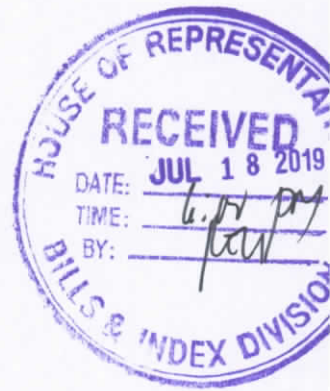


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2419

**Introduced by: Representatives Gil "Kabarangay Jr." A. Acosta, Cyrille
"Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, and Franz E. Alvarez**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

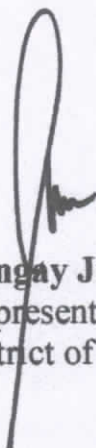
This bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 8506 "AN ACT BANNING THE REGISTRATION AND OPERATION OF VEHICLES WITH RIGHT-HAND STEERING WHEEL IN ANY PRIVATE OR PUBLIC STREET, ROAD OR HIGHWAY, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Unlike its ASEAN counterparts, the Philippines has not entered into any bilateral road transport agreements with other ASEAN countries. Though our country is a signatory to the BIMP – EAGA transport memorandum of understanding (MOU), there is presently no Filipino transport operator doing business under the MOU.

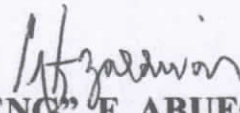
There is no specific law in the Philippines that governs the temporary admission of private road vehicles from ASEAN countries. Under the Philippine Customs regulations, motor vehicles including trailers and parts are dutiable items. Vehicles that are brought in by RO-RO vessels are treated as import goods and therefore subject to a relatively long process of customs clearance and paper works.

Right hand drive vehicles are strictly not permitted to enter the country. Of the ten (10) ASEAN member States, only three (3) countries including the Philippines are using left hand drive vehicles. One way to address the issue is to amend Republic Act 8056. Allowing right hand drive vehicles to enter the country will facilitate the country's RO-RO connectivity with ASEAN countries.

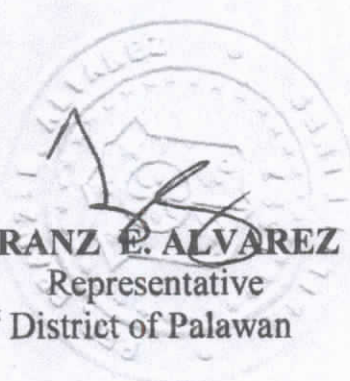

In light of the proposed RO-RO connections as part of the integration among South East Asian countries, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



GIL 'Kabarangay Jr.' A. ACOSTA
Representative
3rd District of Palawan



CYRILLE "BENG" F. ABUEG-ZALDIVAR
Representative
2nd District of Palawan



FRANZ E. ALVAREZ
Representative
1st District of Palawan

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2419

**Introduced by: Representatives Gil “Kabarangay Jr.” A. Acosta, Cyrille
“Beng” F. Abueg-Zaldivar, and Franz E. Alvarez**

**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8506 ENTITLED “AN ACT
BANNING THE REGISTRATION AND OPERATION OF VEHICLES
WITH RIGHT-HAND STEERING WHEEL IN ANY PRIVATE OR
PUBLIC STREET, ROAD OR HIGHWAY, PROVIDING PENALTIES
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

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

3 SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act. No. 8506 is hereby amended to read as
4 follows:

5
6 “Section 2. Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) - registered
7 private motor vehicles, including two, three or four-wheel motorcycles, or
8 motorcycles with side cars; tourists vans or buses carrying tourists from another
9 country; and delivery trucks or lorries carrying goods from any ASEAN
10 country, may be allowed entry and operation in any highway, street or road,
11 whether private or public or of the national or local government: Provided,
12 that a separate special motor vehicle operation permit for the vehicle and
13 special license for the driver are issued by the Department of Transportation
14 (DOTR), or any public office with DOTR - delegated authority, each in favor of

15 the motor vehicle and the designated driver at the port of entry for a
16 limited duration and subject to conditions as set forth by this Act.”
17

18 SEC. 2. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8506 is hereby amended to read as
19 follows:
20

21 “Section 3. As a condition for the issuance of a special permit and license to
22 operate motor vehicles within Philippine jurisdiction, the designated driver
23 shall present the vehicle’s current-year ASEAN motor vehicle registration
24 and his or her driver’s license issued by the country that issued his passport at
25 the port of entry. Such registration and license must be valid within the
26 duration of the permit and license that may be issued in his or her favor and
27 compliant with Philippine land transportation laws, rules and regulations:
28 Provided, that the ASEAN country of registration of the motor vehicle extends
29 reciprocal rights to Philippine-registered motor vehicles: Provided finally, that the
30 designated driver is a national of a country that accords reciprocal rights to
31 nationals of the Philippines.”
32

33 SEC. 3. New sections are hereby introduced to read as follows:
34

35 “Section 4. The special motor vehicle operation permit and special driver’s license
36 to be issued shall have a validity of not more than thirty (30) days from the date of
37 entry if the purpose is to ferry tourists, and not more than seven (7) days from the
38 date of entry if the purpose is to deliver goods: Provided, that no delivery trucks or
39 lorries carrying passengers shall be allowed entry or operation: Provided further,
40 that the entry of tourist vans or buses carrying both passengers and goods shall be
41 treated as entry for tourism purposes: Provided furthermore, that the entry of
42 tourist vans or buses carrying goods only shall be treated as entry for delivery of
43 goods: Provided finally, That the commercial transport of goods or passengers
44 originating from one point and ending in another point, both of which are within
45 Philippine jurisdiction, shall at all times be prohibited.”
46

47 “Section 5. The port of entry of the ASEAN-registered motor vehicles specially
48 exempted under this Act shall be restricted to the declared international ports in
49 Mindanao and Palawan, and such other international ports as may later be

50 recognized by the Department of Transportation.”

51
52 “Section 6. Unless otherwise exempted under any international agreement or
53 convention as with ASEAN passport-holders, drivers of ASEAN-registered motor
54 vehicles specially exempted under this Act shall be required to present Philippine
55 visas: Provided, that their passports shall at all times be valid under Philippine
56 laws, rules and regulations within the duration of their stay in the country.”

57
58 “Section 7. For the safety, convenience, and security of visitors and Philippine
59 residents, the privileges granted under this Act shall at all times be limited by
60 Philippine land transportation, customs, immigration, quarantine, security, and
61 other applicable laws, rules and regulations.”

62
63 SEC. 4. Sections 2 and 3 of Republic Act No. 8506 are hereby renumbered as
64 Sections 8 and 9 to read as follows:

65
66 “Section 8. The penalty of prision correccional in its medium period and a fine of
67 fifty thousand pesos (P50,000) shall be imposed upon any person violating the
68 provisions of this Act.”

69
70 “Section 9. This Act shall take effect immediately after its complete publication in
71 the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general
72 circulation.”

73
74 SEC 5. This Act shall take effect immediately after its complete publication in the
75 Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

76
77 Approved,