

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3206



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There are several major Expressways in Luzon, namely, Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX), North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), South Luzon Expressway (SLEX), Muntinlupa-Cavite Expressway (MCX), Skyway, STARTollway, Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX) and Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway (TPLEX) being managed by different tollway operators under the watch of the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB). Travelling on these expressways became truly an express journey especially for those traversing NLEX, SLEX and CAVITEX as toll operators provide their patrons Electronic Toll Collection System.

During holidays and rush hours, the tollway plazas are jam-packed with vehicles the long queue is a waste of time, gasoline, money and sometimes can even cause road rages. To somehow resolve this issue, toll wayoperators introduced the use of Electronic Collection System.

This Electronic Toll Collection System cuts short the waiting time of the motorists when passing through the tollgates. It decreases the congestion of cash transactions in the toll lanes especially during rush hours and holidays when high traffic volume is expected. "E-Pass" and "Easytrip" allows a vehicle to just slow down through designated lanes and the toll fee is automatically deducted from their accounts.

For motorists who regularly use these expressways, they purchase reloadable tags from each tollgate operator to enjoy the benefits of the Electronic Toll Collection System, each tag costs four hundred to two thousand Pesos and they need to have their account reloaded from different outlets making it inconvenient for them.

However, not everyone would purchase these devices or tags because each stretch of the expressway requires a different one. Motorists passing through North Luzon Expressway must purchase the "EasyTrip" while those traversing South Luzon Expressway must have an "EasyPass" and those that will pass through Cavitex must have "EasyDrive", it is very inconvenient and costly to purchase all of these tags and reloading all of them.

Mandating the use of unified Radio Frequency Identification Device to be used in any and all of these tollgates, motorists can have cash less and queue-less transaction as they pass through dedicated lanes or mixed lanes in all expressway toll plazas.

This bill seeks to eradicate the trouble of having to purchase tags from each provider and have it reloaded from different locations. This will entice more motorists to avail of this service. This is a simple measure that intends not only to help people save money but also to ensure smooth traffic situation in toll plazas during rush hours and holidays, thus, approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.



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**AN ACT MANDATING ALL TOLLWAY OPERATORS TO USE
UNIFIED ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTION ACCESS PASS**

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as “**Unified Access Toll Act of 2019**”

SECTION 2. Definition of terms. For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be used under the definition provided hereof,

Electronic Toll Collection System – It is a new toll system designed to enhance convenience for drivers enabling cashless toll collection and thus mitigating congestion at expressway tollgates.

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) – It is the wireless use of electromagnetic fields to transfer data, for the purposes of automatically identifying and tracking tags attached to objects.

Radio Frequency Identification Tag – A card or sticker attached to the windshield of the vehicle that contains electronically stored information.

Electronic Access Pass - Access pass that can be used by vehicle owners for cashless toll fee transactions in toll plazas.

SECTION 3. Unified Electronic Access Pass - There shall only be a single Radio Frequency Identification Tag per vehicle that can be used for cashless toll fee payments in any of the expressways.

SECTION 4. Electronic Toll Collection System Lanes. All toll way operators shall designate special lanes in toll plazas for motorists who avail of the Unified Electronic Access Pass.

SECTION 5. Implementing Rules And Regulations. Within one hundred twenty days (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the effectivity of this Act.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause. If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.