

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 4762

Introduced by Representative ERIC L. OLIVAREZ


EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines stands out as East Asia's biggest dog owner, with six times the per-capita number of pets seen in China. In the Philippines, there is one pet dog for every 8 people. While cats on the other hand occupy the second most popular animal in the Philippines. From these data provided, it is quite clear that the Philippines is a pet-loving country. It can be understood as why the Philippines is a pet-loving country as numerous studies show that pets reduce stress, anxiety, and depression, ease loneliness and provide valuable companionship. With the emergence of pet-friendly public places today, especially malls, it only suitable that pet owners are allowed to bring their pets in public utility vehicles.

As pet owners consider their pets as important members of their families, it is understood that pet owners are motivated to provide love, care and devotion for their pets. The passage of this Bill will limit the unfortunate occurrence of having to leave pets at home just because of issues in transportation. Likewise, promotion of the pet's welfare will also come into play as the passage of this Bill will make it easier for pet owners to bring their pets around in different places which in turn contributes in their pets' physical, social, emotional and mental well-being.

This Bill intends to allow pet-owners to bring their pets in PUVs. It further mandates PUV owners to provide designated animal compartments in order to accommodate said animals.

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


ERIC OLIVAREZ

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4762
House Bill No. _____

Introduced by Representative **ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

**AN ACT ALLOWING PETS TO BE TRANSPORTED IN PUBLIC
UTILITY VEHICLES OPERATING IN THE PHILIPPINES**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known and cited
as the "Pet Transport Act".

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It shall be the declared
policy of the State to harmonize the policies of public transport and
the provisions enshrined in the Animal Welfare Act in order to
promote and uphold animal welfare in the Philippines.

SECTION 3. Coverage- This Act shall apply to all public
vehicles (PUV) operating in the Philippines.

SECTION 4. Transport of pets in PUVs. - Owners of pets
shall be allowed to bring their pets in PUVs provided that the
following are observed:

- a) The animals are put inside carriers/cages and placed at the designated animal compartment of the PUV, should there be other passengers inside the PUV;
- b) If there are no other passengers, pets may be allowed to be carried by the owner as long as said animals are free from foul odor and that the owner maintains cleanliness and sanitation.
- c) The possessor or pet owner shall make sure that his or her pet does not cause any damage in the PUV which includes but is not limited to cleaning and sanitation of the PUV and safety of the other passengers. Should the pet cause any harm or damage in the PUV, the possessor or pet owner shall be made liable for the damage caused;
- d) Safety, convenience and comfort of the passengers shall not in any way be sacrificed.

SECTION 5. *Designated animal compartments* – Every PUV operating in the Philippines shall be required to provide a designated animal compartment where pet owners may leave the animals while in transit in the PUV. No cruel confinement or restraint shall be made on such animals while being transported.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* – Within sixty (60) days from the promulgation of this Act, the implementing rules and regulations for the proper implementation of its provisions shall be formulated by the appropriate government office or agency in coordination with all the stakeholders and covered establishments and institutions.

SECTION. 7. *Separability Clause*. - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION. 8 . *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION. 9. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.