

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6119**



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**Introduced by HONORABLE WES T. GATHCALIAN**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTION SYSTEM FOR**  
**ALL EXPRESSWAYS IN THE COUNTRY**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Currently, there are 13 controlled-access highways or expressways that connect Metro Manila to provinces located in North and South Luzon. While not all of these expressways are interconnected, there is a plan to construct more and eventually connect all of them to form the Philippine Expressway Network.

These different expressways, however, were built, maintained and currently operated by different companies under the build-operate-transfer (BOT) scheme. Each toll road operator in the country utilizes different electronic toll collection (ETC) systems which are not interoperable with one another. As a result, motorists that travel between these different expressways are required to maintain multiple ETC accounts in order to utilize the ETC toll booths in all the expressways or else forced to wait in long traffic lines to pay using cash.

As we all know, transportation plays an important role in any country's economy. These traffic build ups in our expressways are most usually caused by the bottlenecks in cash collection toll booths, which to a great extent, reduce our productivity as a nation. Delays not only affect production, delivery of goods/services and work schedules, but also limit the capacity of our government in responding to emergency situations and delivering services to the people.

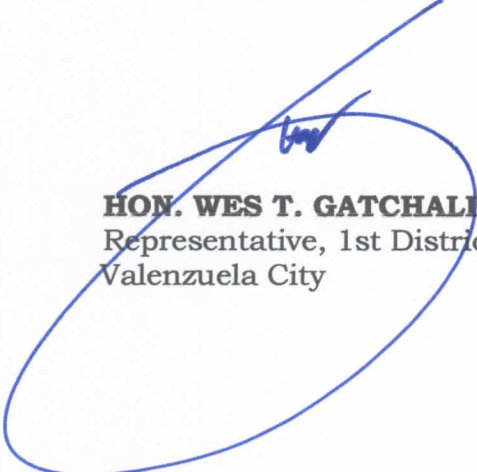
The ETC may be able to resolve this problem and more..

This proposed legislation seeks to establish the interoperability of existing toll operations between different expressways to harness the full potential of providing fast, seamless and convenient means of land transportation.

We are not oblivious to the existence toll interoperability memorandum agreement that the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) have put in place, which was signed by the toll road companies operating 13 expressways in Luzon, the same, however, has been ineffective in enforcing toll interoperability.

It is in this wise that we deemed it imperative to pass this bill in order to create the National Electronic Toll Collection System and mandate the interoperability of electronic toll collection programs in all expressways in the country. A unified electronic toll collection system will be indispensable once the Philippine expressway network comes to existence.

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



**HON. WES T. GATCHALIAN**  
Representative, 1st District  
Valenzuela City

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**AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTION SYSTEM  
FOR ALL EXPRESSWAYS IN THE COUNTRY**

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

3        **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** - This Act shall be known as the "*National*  
4        *Electronic Toll Collection System.*"

5        **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** - It is the policy of the State to protect the  
6        interests and promote the general welfare of consumers. Toward this end, the State  
7        shall promulgate measures that will promote faster, convenient and seamless  
8        travel experience along the country's toll roads by mandating for the establishment  
9        of a National Electronic Toll Collection System.

10       **SEC. 3. *Coverage of this Act.*** - This Act shall cover all toll collection  
11       facilities in expressways of the country.

12       **SEC. 4. *Definition of Terms*** - The following terms used in this Act shall  
13       have the meaning stated below:

14           a. **Electronic Toll Collection or ETC** - refers to a computerized system  
15           which is integrated with electronic equipment installed in the Toll  
16           Plazas used to automatically collect toll fees charged to vehicles using  
17           the toll roads.

18           b. **Radio Frequency Identification or RFID** - refers to a technology  
19           whereby digital data encoded in RFID tags or labels are automatically  
20           identified, collected and entered into computer systems with little or  
21           no human intervention. A RFID system usually consists of three  
22           components: an RFID tag or smart label, an RFID reader, and an



1 antenna.

2 c. Expressway - refers to a highway designed for fast traffic, with  
3 controlled entrance and exit, usually toll collection booths/plaza,  
4 with a dividing strip between the traffic in opposite directions, and  
5 typically two or more lanes in each direction.

6 d. Electronic Toll Interoperability - refers to a system where an  
7 electronic or RFID tag from one toll road operator can be used in the  
8 toll road of another operator, or a single electronic or RFID tag can  
9 used to access all toll roads in the country.

10 e. Toll Operator - refers to a private entity granted by the Toll  
11 Regulatory Board the authority to operate a toll facility through a Toll  
12 Concession Agreement

13 SEC. 5. ***Establishment of the National Electronic Toll Collection***

14 ***System*** - In order to promote faster, convenient and seamless travel experience in  
15 all expressways or toll roads in country, and to reduce the time spent by motorists  
16 in toll gates thereby facilitating faster flow of vehicular traffic in our expressways,  
17 the Department of Transportation in close coordination with the Toll Regulatory  
18 Board, shall establish the National Electronic Toll Collection System requiring all  
19 toll collection facilities operating in the Philippine Expressways to implement  
20 technologies and business practices that provide for the interoperability of  
21 electronic toll collection programs.

22 SEC. 6. ***Implementing Guidelines*** -

23 The Department of Transportation in coordination with the Toll Regulatory  
24 Board and in consultation with the concerned stakeholders, shall formulate the  
25 necessary guidelines in the proper implementation of the National Electronic  
26 Collection System based on the following parameters:

27 a. vehicle owners/operators shall be required to enroll a single account per  
28 vehicle and will be provided with a single multi-protocol Radio-Frequency  
29 Identification or RFID tag to access ETC toll gates in all expressway in  
30 the country;

31 b. the system should utilize the existing infrastructure in place at toll  
32 facilities across the nation to avoid additional cost and delay in the  
33 implementation of this Act;

34 c. toll road operators must introduce the necessary modification in their  
35 existing electronic collection system program to make them interoperable  
36 and integrated with the RFID tag under the National Electronic Toll

Collection System;

- d. if possible, the system must adopt the existing guidelines and business practices in the use of ETC already being implemented by the toll operators.

SEC. 7. ***Creation of a Multi-protocol Radio-Frequency Identification or RFID Tag for the National Electronic Toll Collection System.*** - The Department of Transportation in collaboration with the Department of Science and Technology "DOST", within six (6 months) after the enactment of this Act shall create a Multi-protocol Radio-Frequency Identification or RFID Tag for the National Electronic Toll Collection System under the following guidelines:

- a. The RFID tag can be readily integrated with the existing electronic toll collection systems of all expressways;
- b. The RFID account for the National Electronic Toll Collection System shall be reloadable in the reloading stations of the existing ETCs;
- c. The upon use of the RFID tags the toll collection booth must issue/display timely statements the toll transactions to provide transparency to consumers and protection from hidden or unsupported charges;

SEC. 8. ***National Electronic Toll Collection Software Application*** - The DOTr in collaboration with the DOST shall commission the creation of an accompanying software application, which shall be accessible through a computer, mobile phones and other mobile devices, where consumers can view their account statements, notifications and alerts concerning the use of Expressways. The creation of the software application, however, shall not affect the immediate implementation of electronic toll collection interoperability mandated under this Act.

SEC. 9. ***Deadline Electronic Toll Collection Interoperability***- Not later than six (6) months after the date of the enactment of this Act, all toll facilities in the country must comply and implement the requirements for toll interoperability under the National Electronic Toll Collection System.

SEC. 10. ***Penalties*** - Any toll owner or operator who fails to comply with the deadline for toll interoperability under this Act shall be penalised by a fine of not less than P5,000.00 per day of non-compliance.

SEC. 11. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - The Secretary of Department of Transportation shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

1        SEC. 12. ***Separability Clause.*** - If any provision or part of this Act is held  
2        invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall  
3        remain in full force and effect.

4        SEC. 13. ***Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, executive orders, presidential  
5        decrees or issuances, letter of instruction, administrative orders, rules, and  
6        regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
7        hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

8        SEC. 14. ***Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days  
9        after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
10       circulation.

Approved,