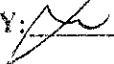


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SENATE

P.S. Resolution No. 335

RECEIVED BY: 

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

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**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES  
AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN  
INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MECHANISMS  
ADOPTED TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND THE  
ACTIONS AND POLICY MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT TRAFFIC RULES  
ARE IMPLEMENTED IN CONSONANCE WITH COMMITMENTS TO  
ENFORCE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS**

**WHEREAS**, Section 16 of Article XII of the 1987 Constitution provides:

*“The Congress shall not, except by general law, provide for the formation, organization, or regulation of private corporations. Government-owned or controlled corporations may be created or established by special charters in the interest of the common good and subject to the test of economic viability.”*

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to this, Congress may promulgate rules to ensure that the public safety and welfare given the utmost consideration in the business of transportation of persons and cargo;

**WHEREAS**, one such provision is found under Article 1733 of the New Civil Code which states that:

*“Common carriers, from the nature of their business and for reasons of public policy, are bound to observe extraordinary diligence in the vigilance over the goods and the safety of the passengers transported by them, according to all the circumstances of each case.”;*

**WHEREAS**, through the Vienna Convention on Road Signs and Signals the Philippines commits to conform and implement international uniformity of road signs, signals and symbols and of road markings which is necessary in order to facilitate international road traffic and to increase road safety;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations General Assembly formally declared 2010-2020 as the Decade of Action for Road Safety because road traffic injuries has become one of the killers of people in the past few years and by 2030 it is estimated that road traffic injuries will become the fifth leading cause of death worldwide;

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.unecce.org/trans/conventn/signalse.pdf> 1/12/11 2:05 PM

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Police Highway Patrol Group has reported a 26.5-percent jump in road accidents in 2008, deaths from vehicular accidents accounted for 31 percent of the fatalities recorded by the Philippine Orthopedic Center (POC) in 2008;

**WHEREAS**, a study by Dr. Ricardo Sigua of the University of the Philippines-National Center for Transportation Studies (UP-NCTS) shows that the national cost of road crashes annually including those that are unreported is about \$1.9 billion;<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, most vehicular accidents are caused by vehicle malfunction due to neglect, overspeeding, overloading, traffic violations, and bad condition of roads and lack of traffic and warning signs;


**WHEREAS**, some accidents happen because drivers are in no condition to drive, such as when they are under the influence of liquor or drugs, are sleepy or fatigued or are sick, it is known that drivers use stimulants like energy drinks and shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride) to fight off drowsiness;<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS**, efforts must be exerted involving the government, drivers, commuters and all the stakeholders to promote road safety in order to put a stop to the loss of lives and property due to vehicular accidents.

**WHEREAS**, the need is immediate to raise the level of awareness for transport safety so that the frequent road accidents in which scores have died are halted and seeming indifference of the people to transport safety ended;

**NOW, WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED**, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to direct the Committee on Public Services and other appropriate Committees to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the mechanisms adopted to promote road safety in the Philippines and insure that traffic rules are implemented in consonance with commitments to enforce international standards of road signs and signals.

Adopted,

  
**MANNY VILLAR**

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<sup>2</sup> <http://opinion.inquirer.net/inquireropinion/talkofthetown/view/20090510-204105/Road-safety> 1/12/11 3:14 PM

<sup>3</sup> <http://opinion.inquirer.net/inquireropinion/talkofthetown/view/20100710-280321/Zooming-ahead-with-road-safety> 1/12/11 2:30 PM