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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8165

Introduced by Representative Manuel Luis T. Lopez

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE UNIFIED ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTION SYSTEM IN ALL EXPRESSWAYS, MANDATING REGISTRATION TO THE SAID SYSTEM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Department of Transportation’s (DOTr) announcement of the mandatory electronic payment systems for toll collections was confronted with legitimate questions of practicality and convenience from fellow Congressman.

Currently, toll payments in expressways are collected electronically through radio frequency identification (RFID) systems of two toll operators, specifically through Easytrip and Autosweep. Thus, mandating electronic payment systems for all motoring public that will pass through expressways will require them to register for and load-up two different RFID cards. On top of additional burdens for the riding public, this might also cause confusion, especially for those who do not frequen expressways.

This proposed measure seeks to ease the registration and use of RFID technology in toll collections by mandating the establishment of a unified electronic toll collection system for all expressways. Through this measure, the riding public will only have to register and maintain one electronic payment system ID.

To ensure seamless use of the system, the Department of Transportation, Toll Regulatory Board, and Toll Operating Certificate Grantees are required to create technical support and maintenance service for the system.

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

HON. MANUEL LUIS T. LOPEZ
Representative
1st District, City of Manila
Republic of the Philippines

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Unified Electronic Toll Collection System Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes the vital role of information and communications technology in nation-building. The State also recognizes the need of promoting ease of doing business and efficient delivery of good and services to the general public. Towards this end, the State shall promote a unified electronic toll collection system in all toll facilities to optimize the use of technology and innovative payment system for all toll facilities.

SEC. 3. Establishment of the Unified Electronic Toll Collection System. – Within three (3) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), and all grantees of existing Toll Operating Certificates (TOC Grantees), are hereby mandated to establish one standard electronic collection system for all toll facilities in all expressways in the country, which shall be called the Unified Electronic Toll Collection System.

For this purpose, the DOTr, TRB, and TOC Grantees are hereby authorized to partner with any duly authorized Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) systems supplier and e-money issuer (EMI) to enable them to establish seamless and continued toll collection service in the use of expressways. Provided that, the selection of an RFID systems supplier and EMI partners shall be subject to the rules of procurement prescribed under Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

Provided, further, that the DOTr, TRB, and TOC Grantees shall also create the necessary technical support and maintenance service for the Unified Electronic Toll
Collection System. The support service shall be responsible for troubleshooting and
maintaining coordination with the RFID systems supplier and EMI partner for technical
and other concerns. The creation of the technical support and maintenance service shall
be without prejudice to any technical support arrangement between the concerned
government bodies and the RFID systems supplier and EMI partner pursuant to a
contract or agreement.

Provided, finally, that the DOTr, TRB, and the concerned TOC Grantee/s shall
provide an accessible express or priority lane for vehicles that have been registered for
any of the RFID systems.

Sec. 4. Mandatory Registration to the Unified Electronic Toll Collection System.
- Registration for the electronic toll collections system shall become mandatory for all
vehicles passing through expressways once the Unified Electronic Toll Collection System
has been established.

Sec. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within one month from the
effectivity of this Act, the DOTr, in coordination with the TRB, shall issue the rules and
regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 6. Appropriations. - The amount necessary for the implementation of the
provisions of this Act shall be taken from the current year's budgets of the DOTr and TRB.
Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of the Act
shall be incorporated in the annual General Appropriations Act, corporate operating
budget, or appropriation ordinance, as the case may be.

Sec. 7. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
provisions hereof.

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

Sec. 9. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect immediately after its
publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,