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

Eighteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1076

Introduced by Representative Gil “Kabarangay Jr.” A. Acosta

RESOLUTION URGING THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES TO SUSPEND THE IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE MOTORCYCLE BARRIER RULE

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2020, the INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES issued Resolution No. 47 Series of 2020 allowing back riding in motorcycles, subject to guidelines set forth by the Technical Working Group;

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2020, the Department of Interior and Local Government issued an advisory allowing back riding in motorcycles for couples living in the same household, provided that a safety barrier/shield whose design is duly approved by the IATF National Task Force COVID-19 be placed between the driver and the passenger;

WHEREAS, the Motorcycle Development Program Participants Association, Inc (MDPPA) in an official statement affirms that all motorcycle models from member brands (Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki, and Yamaha) undergo years of careful planning, design and development carried out by teams of engineers to ensure the utmost safety of each unit. Any additional fixture will negatively affect stability and handling of a motorcycle, inevitably compromising the safety of its occupants. The proposed pillion shield will create significant wind resistance when the motorcycle is in motion. Not only
does it reduce aerodynamic efficiency, it also makes it easier for crosswinds to throw the motorcycle off-balance even when running at low speed.

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2020, in a position paper the Philippine Society of Mechanical Engineers, Inc believes that the motorcycle barrier cannot serve as a health and safety measure to protect the riders from COVID-19, instead it may compromise safety, health, economy, and the environment;

WHEREAS, there is no scientific data that could support claims that installing a motorcycle barrier will prevent the spread of COVID-19 from rider to passenger;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to urge the INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES to immediately suspend the implementation and enforcement of the Motorcycle Barrier Rule;

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that the INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES conduct comprehensive consultation among motorcycle manufacturers and experts, conduct studies on aerodynamics, and do test runs and workshop reviews by experts, in order to come up with better guidelines that will protect motorcycle riders from COVID-19 and at the same time prevent road mishaps,

Adopted.

GIL “Kabarangay Jr.” A. ACOSTA
Representative
3rd District of Palawan