A RESOLUTION

URGING THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE TO STOP THE MANDATORY IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION CENTERS DURING THIS PERIOD OF NATIONAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AND UNTIL FURTHER STUDIES AND MEASURES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED


WHEREAS, pursuant to LTO MC 2018-2518, later 2019-009, directed that all PMVICs granted Authorization shall commence operation effective immediately.

WHEREAS, as of date, there are a total of additional 209 sites nationwide for the establishment of PMVICs that the PMVIC Authorization Committee (PMVIC AC), an Interagency Committee composed of members coming from the DOTr, LTO and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), had proposed to open by virtue of LTO MC 2020-2225 and Resolution No. PMVIC-2020-VAR-02;

WHEREAS, of the 138 initial sites that were opened and approved by the PMVIC AC, only 23 PMVICs nationwide were given an authority to operate within their Geographical Area of Responsibility (GAOR);

WHEREAS, to illustrate, my Province of Oriental Mindoro has been allotted by the PMVIC AC with two (2) sites based on the LTO website;

WHEREAS, the PMVIC AC had given authority to one (1) PMVIC site in Calapan City to operate within its GAOR covering the LTO Calapan City District Office in the First District and its two extension offices located in the Municipalities of Pinamalayan and Roxas within the Second Congressional District;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authorized GAOR of the PMVIC in Calapan City, it is now mandatory for all owners of motor vehicles to go to the said PMVIC for the requisite inspection and emission testing of their motor vehicles if their last registration was transacted either in LTO Calapan, Pinamalayan or Roxas in order for their motor vehicles to be processed and renewed;

WHEREAS, with this scenario, an impending exodus of motor vehicles from the southern part of the Province will be experienced in the City of Calapan because motor vehicle owners from the Second District of the Province will bring their motor vehicles in Calapan City to be inspected;

WHEREAS, the situation will pose grave threat to the established health protocol of the City of Calapan during this time of National Health Emergency (COVID-19 pandemic).

WHEREAS, apart from this circumstances, Oriental Mindoro's allotment for two (2) sites is not yet completed and there are still so many issues that need to be addressed first by the DOTr and LTO i.e., the Information Technology (IT) System of the LTO relative to the operation and implementation of the PMVIC program.

WHEREAS, to allow the operation of the one (1) PMVIC site in Calapan City will bring unequal treatment of the law especially to the existing Private Emission Testing Centers (PETCs) and the owners of the motor vehicles in the province because some provinces do not have yet PMVIC in their areas;
WHEREAS, this scenario is also true as regards the owners of the motor vehicles whose last registration was transacted in the LTO where there is yet no established PMVIC site because they can still go to the old process of registration and renewal of their motor vehicles;

WHEREAS, on 8 March 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has issued Proclamation No. 922, Series of 2020, declaring a "State of Public Health Emergency throughout the entire Philippines" mandating all government agencies and local government units to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent and appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the COVID-19 threat;

WHEREAS, under Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Constitution, it is the State’s Policy to protect and promote the right to health of the people;

WHEREAS, under Section 1, Article III of the 1987 Constitution provides that, "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty and property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws";

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF), pursuant to Resolution No. 60-A, Series of 2020, directed all Provinces, Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs), and Independent Component Cities (ICC) to observe the strict enforcement of the following measures: "a. Minimum public health standards, especially uniform implementation in high-risk areas such as healthcare settings, wet markets, supermarkets, government offices and workplaces, among others xxx";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge the President, DOTr and LTO to stop the mandatory implementation of PMVICS during this period of National Health Emergency and until further studies and measures have been completed.

ATTY. PAULINO "DOY" SALVADOR C. LEACHON
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