Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1589  

Introduced by Representative MICAELA S. VIOLAGO

A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTr) AND THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) TO STOP THE MANDATORY IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION CENTERS (PMVICs) DURING THIS PERIOD OF NATIONAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AND UNTIL A COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC CONSULTATION IS CONDUCTED, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY TO STAKEHOLDERS AND THE PUBLIC WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENSURING PUBLIC SAFETY

WHEREAS, LTO chief Assistant Secretary Edgar Galvante in 28 November 2018 issued LTO Memorandum Circular (MC) 2018-2158 that laid out the guidelines authorizing PMVICs;

WHEREAS, the DOTr and the LTO, even without an exhaustive public consultation as well as public information campaign, issued Memorandum Circular 2020- 2240 dated 29 December 2020 directing the immediate implementation of the PMVIC, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the government is privatizing motor vehicle inspection through PMVICs, with the LTO eyeing 138 PMVICs nationwide, with a total of 276 lanes for light vehicles and 276 lanes for motorcycles;

WHEREAS, under LTO's Memorandum Circular 2018-2158, private inspection centers are to collect inspection fees of P1,800 from motor vehicles weighing 4,500 kilograms or less. If a vehicle fails, it will be required to undergo necessary repairs and retested for a P800 reinspection fee, motorcycles and tricycles are also charged P600 for the inspection fee and P300 for reinspection;

WHEREAS, previously, vehicles being registered at the LTO were merely inspected for compliance with the Clean Air Act through a smoke emission test done by private emission testing centers (PETCs);
WHEREAS, with the arrival of PMVICs, vehicles must pass an automated three-stage system with 73 inspection points before being considered roadworthy and eligible;

WHEREAS, if the vehicle fails the test, it will be required to undergo necessary repairs and taken back to the private inspection centers where the motorist is charged an additional P900 reinspection fee to obtain clearance;

WHEREAS, motorists have complained of the high cost of inspection fee at P1,800 and P900 for reinspection;

WHEREAS, vehicles were also repeatedly failing inspection without explanation or opportunity for the motorists to question the results;

WHEREAS, there’s no grievance mechanism or proper procedure for redress to question if the inspection was proper or legal;

WHEREAS, Senators Grace Poe and Ralph Recto questioned the integrity of the scheme, citing that the public should not be further burdened by regulatory measures with questionable procedures, exorbitant fees with doubtful effectiveness, and implementation of policies without proper public consultation;

WHEREAS, the timing of the policy’s implementation was also questioned, considering that many people are still suffering from the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the intention behind the law is noble, but the fees following its implementation cannot come at a worse time in the middle of a pandemic where people are barely getting by and now have to add another item in their list of expenses;

WHEREAS, in the Senate hearing on the implementation of the MVIS, Senate President Pro Tempore Ralph Recto estimated that the 23 private motor vehicle inspection centers (PMVICs) currently operating stand to earn P8 billion annually, while the DOTr will only get P100,000 from each private operators annually;

WHEREAS, the lack of transparency in the selection of the PMVICs caused apprehension among concerned groups that the program has become a breeding ground for corruption;

WHEREAS, amid mounting complaints, President Rodrigo Duterte on February 11, 2021 has ordered the LTO to suspend the mandatory conduct of the Motor Vehicle Inspection System (MVIS), meaning, there will be no additional fees in the registration of vehicles;

WHEREAS, this was the decision of the President where he balanced the needs of the public amid the pandemic;

WHEREAS, Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said the President is also banking on the Senate and the House of Representatives to follow through his lead by possibly amending the provisions of the new law on car seats and the MVIS;
WHEREAS, Senator Ralph Recto filed Senate Resolution 638 that seeks to suspend the operation of private Motor Vehicle Inspection Centers nationwide until comprehensive public consultation has been conducted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Department of Transportation and the Land Transportation Office to suspend the operation of the Private Motor Vehicle Inspection Centers until a comprehensive public consultation is conducted, with the end in view of promoting transparency to stakeholders and the public while at the same time ensuring public safety.

ADOPTED.

[Signature]

MICAELA S. VIOLAGO