A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE TO POSTPONE THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION DEADLINE BY SIX MONTHS AND WAIVE THE PENALTIES FOR LATE REGISTRATION WITHIN THAT PERIOD

WHEREAS, the Land Transportation Office, by virtue of Executive Order No. 125 dated 13 April 1987, is tasked, among others, to register motor vehicles;

WHEREAS, Section 13 of EO 125 states that the Land Transportation Office shall establish and prescribe rules and regulations for the inspection and registration of public and land transportation facilities such as motor vehicles;

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the entire island of Luzon was placed under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) last 16 March 2020. Various areas of the country were also placed under Community Quarantine;

WHEREAS, during the time various areas of the country was placed under Community Quarantine, the operations of Land Transportation Office (LTO) Sites were temporarily halted. Thus, registration of vehicles did not continue;

WHEREAS, in 2020, the country’s economy contracted by 9.5%. In addition to this, it is estimated that around 3.8 – 4.5 Million Filipinos are currently unemployed;

WHEREAS, there were complaints from motorists that there were not enough Private Emission Testing Centers and Motor Vehicle Inspection Centers (MVIC) that could accommodate them in time for their vehicle registration. In addition to this, there were also complaints on the fees being charged by the MVICs;
WHEREAS, the Committee on Transportation conducted a meeting last February 10, 2021 wherein it was discussed that there are legal questions as to the operation of Private Motor Vehicle Inspection Centers;

WHEREAS, last February 11, 2021, President Duterte announced that the Motor Vehicle Inspection System is no longer mandatory in renewing vehicle registration;

WHEREAS, given the changes in the requirements for the renewal of the motor vehicle registration, it would be better for our transport agencies to streamline the process of motor vehicle registration first before requiring all vehicles to be registered once again;

WHEREAS, due to the effects of the pandemic, most citizens could barely afford to pay for their basic necessities. Thus, it is prudent for government agencies to give adequate time for citizens to pay mandated fees. This would alleviate the burden on motorists especially those who are having a hard time paying their dues;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge the Department of Transportation and Land Transportation Office to postpone the vehicle registration deadline by six months and waive the penalties for late registration within that period.

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