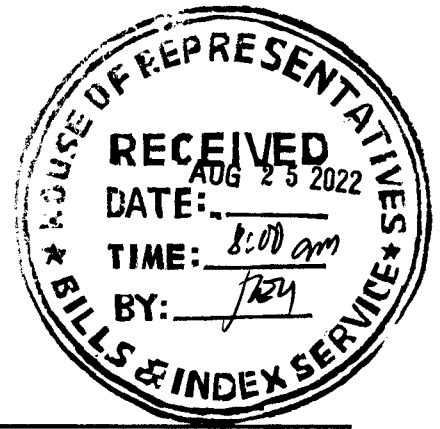


Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session  
House Bill No. 4089



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INTRODUCED BY REP. RONALD V. SINGSON

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Controlled access highways, or commonly referred to as expressways, were designed for high-speed vehicular traffic. They provide an unhindered flow of traffic, with no traffic signals, intersections or property access.

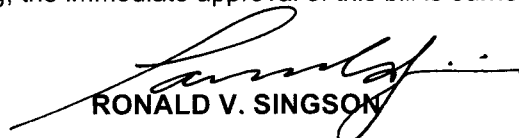
The traffic management and road safety rules for roads and highways in the Philippines are contained in Republic Act No. 4136, or the Land Transportation Code of the Philippines. However, since its passage in 1964, so much has changed in the country in terms of infrastructure, transportation and technology.

For instance, Republic Act No. 4136 does not include in its classification the class of controlled access highways or expressways. Thus, the allowable speed limit for such class of roads is not specified. Moreover, the law applies to vintage vehicles which lack safety features that modern vehicles now have. Therefore, the said law is desperately out of date and needs revising.

The government has spent billions of pesos in the construction of these roads with the goal of giving a better service to the growing number of motorists, and with no uniform regulations specified under the present law, the use of these expressways is not maximized. In order to attain this goal, present laws, rules and regulations should be updated.

To this end, it is the aim of this bill to update the present rules and regulations on road safety and traffic management by including expressways or controlled access highways in the classification of roads and prescribe the speed on such highways. Likewise, this bill will provide the government agencies and their partner private companies operating such highways, a clear and uniform rule to follow. On the other hand, motorists with the correct speed limit regulation will be safer and will be able to maximize the use of the expressways.

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

  
RONALD V. SINGSON

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE DEFINITION OF EXPRESSWAY AND SETTING A SPEED LIMIT FOR SUCH HIGHWAY ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE"

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

**SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to secure and safeguard the safety of its people, particularly its motorist. Towards this end, the State shall adopt new traffic rules on speed limit that will ensure that all facilities and infrastructures available to them may be used to its maximum but at the same time minimize the incidence of road accidents.

**SEC. 2.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 4136, or the "Land Transportation and Traffic Code" is hereby amended as follows:

**Section 3. Words and phrases defined.** – As used in this Act:

"(a) "Motor Vehicle" x x x

x x x

"(m) "Tourist" x x x

**(N) EXPRESSWAY – A CONTROLLED-ACCESS HIGHWAY WHICH PROVIDES A HIGH LEVEL OF TRAFFIC SERVICES BY ASSURING HIGH SPEED MOBILITY AND SAFE TRAVEL IN ORDER TO VITALLY SUPPORT SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES FOR SOUND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC REGIONS AND THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE.**

**SEC. 3.** Section 35 of Republic Act No. 4136, or the "Land Transportation and Traffic Code", Subsection (b), is hereby amended to read as follows:

**"Section. 35. Restriction as to speed.** – x x x

"(a) x x x

*(b) Subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the rate of speed of any motor vehicle shall not exceed the following:*

<b>MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SPEEDS</b>	<i>Passenger Cars and Motorcycle</i>	<i>Motor trucks and buses</i>
1. x x x	x x x	x x x
2. x x x	x x x	x x x
3. x x x	x x x	x x x
4. x x x	x x x	x x x
<b>5. EXPRESSWAYS OR CONTROLLED-ACCESS HIGHWAYS DESIGNED EXCLUSIVELY FOR HIGH-SPEED VEHICULAR TRAFFIC.</b>	<b>140 km. per hour/86.99 miles per hour</b>	<b>120 km. per hour/74.56 miles per hour</b>

**SEC. 4.** Section 36 of Republic Act No. 4136, or the "Land Transportation and Traffic Code" is hereby repealed and replaced with a new Section to read as follows:

**"Section 36-A. Speed limit throughout the Philippines.** – Based on engineering and traffic investigations, the following shall apply:

- (a) Local government units may increase or decrease the speed limits on highways under their jurisdiction;
- (b) The Department of Transportation may establish a safe maximum speed limit on any bridge or elevated structure;
- (c) The Department of Transportation may increase or decrease the maximum speed limit on highways outside of urban areas; and,
- (d) The Department of Transportation, based on the recommendations of the Toll Regulatory Board and the operators of the expressways, may establish safe speed limits on various segments of an expressway, especially on narrow and winding portions.

**SEC. 5. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*