

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT OF SIMILAR CHARACTER WHILE DRIVING MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE CITY OF MANILA.

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the City Council to protect its constituents including drivers of motor vehicles, as well as the riding public;

WHEREAS, this duty is embodied in the Local Government Code, wherein the City Government is empowered to use its special powers to promote the health and safety of its residents;

WHEREAS, it has been noted in New York, the first US State to enact laws banning the use of mobile phones while driving motor vehicles, that a number of vehicular accidents in the United States were caused by drivers using mobile phones;

WHEREAS, to deter similar accidents in our City, it is strongly recommended that an ordinance banning the use of mobile phones and other equipment of similar character while driving motor vehicles in the City be passed: NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it ordained by the City Council of Manila, *THAT*:

SECTION 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to use, send text messages or make or answer a call using mobile phones or other equipment of similar character while driving a motor vehicle in the City of Manila.

SEC. 2. *Exemption.* - Drivers using mobile phones and other similar equipment with hand-free devices are exempted from the coverage of this Ordinance.

SEC. 3. *Penalty Clause.* - Any person found violating or infringing this Ordinance shall be punished as follows:

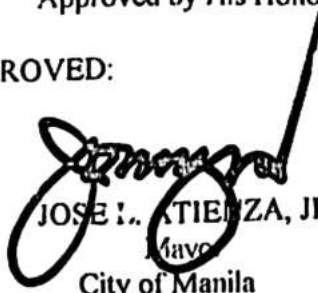
1. A penalty of THREE HUNDRED PESOS (Php 300.00), for the FIRST OFFENSE;
2. A penalty of FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (Php 500.00), for the SECOND OFFENSE;
3. A penalty of ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (Php 1,500.00), for the THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

Enacted by the City Council of Manila at its regular session today, August 20, 2002.

Approved by His Honor, the Mayor, on *September 4, 2002.*

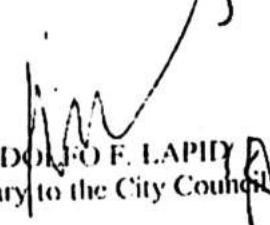
APPROVED:


JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.
Mayor
City of Manila


JOSEP Y. LOPEZ
Acting Presiding Officer
City Council, Manila

ATTESTED:


EMMANUEL R. SISON
Secretary to the Mayor


RODOLFO F. LAPID
Secretary to the City Council

PRINCIPAL AUTHOR: HON. CASIMIRO C. SISON, Hon. Julio E. Logarta, Jr., Hon. Patrick S. Ocampo, Hon. Elizabeth Z. Rivera, Hon. Luciano M. Veloso and HON. JOCELYN B. DAWIS-ASUNCION, Acting Presiding Officer and HON. MARLON M. LACSON, Majority Floor Leader

CO-AUTHORS: Hon. Benjamin D. Asilo, Hon. Cita Astals, Hon. Nelissa F. Beltran, Hon. Ruben F. Buenaventura, Hon. Juan Miguel T. Cuna, Hon. Ma. Theresa B. Bonoan-David, Hon. Ma. Asuncion G. Fugoso, Hon. Richard C. Ibay, Hon. Martin V.I. Isidro, Jr., Hon. Ricardo S. Isip, Hon. Pacifico D. Laxa, Hon. Jhosep Y. Lopez, Hon. Edward V.P. Maceda, Hon. Victoriano A. Melendez, Hon. Roberto R. Ortega, Jr., Hon. Amalia A. Tolentino and Hon. Danilo T. Varona

ILT:mqm/rcm/afd

