Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1698

Introduced by HONORABLE LUIS RAYMUND F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill intends to amend Republic Act No. 7743, otherwise known as "An Act providing for the establishment of provincial, city, and municipal libraries and barangay reading center throughout the Philippines", to strengthen this legislation and help fully realize the intent of the law.

It seeks to improve on the current program by mandating that it be based on the latest computer and electronic library technology. It also seeks to upgrade the reading center facilities with complete standard sets of books, e-books, online research resources and other materials. The electronic library system shall also be upgrade to the latest system and that all cities and municipalities in the country be provided with electronically-operated library systems.

In keeping with the times and with the intent to improve our education system, we humbly submit this bill.

The approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

LUI S RAYMUND F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.
AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7743, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PROVINCIAL, CITY, AND MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES AND BARANGAY READING CENTER THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of RA 7743 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 2. Establishment of Public Libraries and Reading Centers. The National Library in coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall undertake the establishment of additional public libraries to serve all [congressional districts] PROVINCES, cities and municipalities in the Philippines and reading centers in every barangay except in cities or municipalities where there are existing public libraries or in barangays where there are existing public libraries or in barangays where there are existing reading centers: Provided, that the [establishment of such libraries and reading centers shall be based on the development program of the National Library] ESTABLISHMENT PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY SHALL BE BASED ON THE LATEST COMPUTER AND ELECTRONIC LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY, in coordination with the development council of each city or municipality and in the case of the barangay reading centers, in coordination with the respective barangay councils: Provided, further, that where these public libraries and reading centers already exist, the National Library shall continue to upgrade the facilities there [.1 WITH COMPLETE STANDARD SETS OF BOOKS, E-BOOKS, ONLINE RESEARCH RESOURCES AND OTHER MATERIALS AS PROVIDED UNDER SEC. 3 OF THIS ACT AS WELL AS THE LATEST ELECTRONIC LIBRARY SYSTEM USING COMPUTERS FOR STORING, CATALOGING, AND FILING OF DATA AND MATERIALS: PROVIDED, finally, that by the year 2022 all the cities and municipalities of the Philippines with be provided with
ELECTRONICALLY-OPERATED LIBRARY SYSTEM."

SECTION 2. Section 7 of RA 7743 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 7. Appropriations. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law [and for the next five (5) years: thereafter this local government units shall undertake the maintenance of public libraries and reading centers while the National Library shall continue to provide reading materials and supplies to the said libraries and reading centers]. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FUNDS NECESSARY FOR THE ELECTRONIC LIBRARY SYSTEM TO BE IMPLEMENTED, THE BUDGET OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY SHALL BE INCREASED IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P500,000,000.00) PER YEAR UNTIL ALL CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES ARE PROVIDED AND HAVE ACCESS TO FULL ELECTRONIC LIBRARY FACILITIES.

SECTION 3. Role of the DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT). - The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall assist in the provision of the cutting-edge computer and electronic library technology, as well as a fast and reliable internet connection, through the Department's flagship program, the Technology for Education, Employment, Entrepreneurs, and Economic Development (Tech4ED) Project.

SECTION 4. Separability Clause. — If any section or provision of this Act shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such shall not invalidate any other section or provision of this Act.

SECTION 5. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or other issuances or parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. Effectivity Clause. — This Act shall take effect in fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Every vehicle owner is required by law to secure a Compulsory Third Party Liability (CPTL). This is a mandatory requirement in order to indemnify any injured passengers or a third party from mishap without proving negligence.

As stated in Section 378 of the Insurance Code of the Philippines, any claim for death or injury to any passenger or third party shall be paid without the necessity of proving fault or negligence of any kind in which the total indemnity in respect of any person shall not exceed five thousand pesos (P 5,000.00). Nevertheless, the claim must be accompanied by a medical certificate, police report, death certificate and receipts.

However, for the past years, the no-fault indemnity remains unchanged and considered insufficient to finance all the hospitalization and expenses for the damage done. The inadequacy considered as proof that the compensation for any injury is slow, low and not enough.

This bill seeks to increase from five thousand pesos (P 5,000.00) to fifty thousand pesos (P 50,000.00) the total indemnity claim for death or injury to any passenger or third party without the necessity of proving fault or negligence.
This bill also lessens the stress and frustration of people especially the low and marginalized who are not only hospitalized but confronted with the delay of payment by the Insurance company.

In the light of the foregoing premises, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

[Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte, Jr.]
AN ACT
INCREASING THE TOTAL INDEMNITY CLAIM FOR DEATH OR SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY TO ANY PASSENGER OR THIRD PARTY WITHOUT THE NECESSITY OF PROVING FAULT OF NEGLIGENCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 378 OF THE INSURANCE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. Section 378 of Presidential Decree No. 1460, otherwise known as the “Insurance Code of 1978” is hereby amended to read as follows.

“Sec. 378 Any claim for death or serious physical injury to any passenger or third party pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter shall be paid without the necessity of proving fault or negligence of any kind; Provided. That for purposes of this section –

(i.) The total indemnity in respect of any one person shall not exceed [five] FIFTY thousand pesos;”

SECTION 2. Payment claims for physical injuries are not serious, as defined under the Revised Penal Code, of any passenger or third party pursuant to the provision of
this Chapter without necessity of proving fault or negligence of any kind shall be maintained at Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00).

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,