

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Res. No. 873



INTRODUCED BY: Rep. GREG G. GASATAYA

**RESOLUTION URGING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION (DOTr), SEC. ARTHUR P. TUGADE, TO ESTABLISH RULES
STRICTLY REQUIRING ALL COMMON CARRIERS INVOLVED IN INTER-ISLAND
TRANSPORT OF PASSENGERS BY LAND, WATER, OR AIR, TO PREPARE AND
RECORD DETAILED SEAT PLANS OF THEIR PASSENGERS DURING THE ENTIRE
COURSE OF TRANSIT**

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Constitution states that the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides for the duty of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 11332 or the "Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act", President Rodrigo R. Duterte, by virtue of Proclamation No. 922 series of 2020, declared a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, acting on the recommendation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council pursuant to Republic Act No. 10121 or the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010", the President declared a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11469 or the "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act", granted the President temporary authority to carry out tasks necessary to implement measures to mitigate, if not contain the transmission of COVID-19, and undertake means to prevent the overburdening of the healthcare system, among others;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Disease (IATF) adopted a science-based approach and data analytics in assessing the risk classification of cities, provinces and regions in the country;

WHEREAS, the IATF, based on its risk assessment, announced that all local government units which are classified as low-risk areas will now be under the General Community Quarantine (GCQ);

WHEREAS, under the guidelines established by the IATF in the implementation of the GCQ, public transport including inter-island travel by land, water or air are permitted to operate provided the observance of physical distancing;

WHEREAS, there is still a very high risk of infection of COVID-19 among the passengers while in transit despite the observance of physical distancing and wearing of face masks;

WHEREAS, the rules already established to govern passenger manifests are very much helpful in the campaign of our health authorities against COVID-19 especially on the aspect of contact tracing to break the chains of its further spread and transmission; and

WHEREAS, the imposition of an additional rule to require all the common carriers involved in inter-island transport of passengers by land, water or air to prepare and record a detailed seat plan of their passengers during the entire course of transit will enhance the efficiency and accuracy of contact tracing in case a passenger or passengers are later on found positive for COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED to urge the Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Sec. Arthur P. Tugade, to establish rules strictly requiri all common carriers involved in inter-island transport of passengers by land, water, or air, to prepare and record a detailed seat plan of their passengers during the entire course of transit to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of contact tracing in case a passenger or passengers is later on found positive for COVID-19.

Adopted,



REP. GREG G. GASATAYA
Lone District of Bacolod City