

by Allen Abastillas

President Noynoy Aquino signed recently Republic Act No. 10666 otherwise known as the “Children Safety & Motorcycle Act of 2015”

Land Transportation Office- 9 Director Aminola P. Abaton said yesterday that the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC) will soon create a technical working group composed of people from DOTC and LTO for the adoption of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) that will be published in newspapers of general circulation as requirement to its effectivity .

Abaton said the law is intended for children who will be taken as a backrider in a motorcycle. He said under the new law, a child is allowed to ride as backrider, provided he/she must hold his/ her hands, wrist to wrist embracing the whole middle abdomen parts of the body of the driver and the child backrider can reach his/her feet on the pace of the motorcycle wheels or tires. The child backrider must wear standard helmet as provided by law for safety. When a driver is caught violating this law — First offense — P 3,000 fine; second offense — P5,000 and third offense — P 10,000. Beyond three times violation is subject for one month suspension of license and confiscation of license.

The law has also exception when a child will be transported to a hospital for medication.

When the child will get hurt or an accident causes the death of the child, the driver or those who the cause accident is subject to criminal liabilities. If proven guilty in court, the culprit driver or who causes accident will be imprisoned depending on the court decision.

Meanwhile, Abaton said that the new face of the driver license card will be implemented on August 24, 2015 for the Zamboanga City Licensing office, Ipil District Office, Pagadian and Dipolog City.

On the other hand, Hapsa T. Aspi, chief of the Driver License Renewal Center in Yubengco Mall in Barangay Putik, reported to Abaton that her revenue collection from January to July 2015 has reached almost P4 million. From July 20 to 30 2015 operations have been affected by power outages — Allen Abastillas