

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6539, August 26, 1972]

AN ACT PREVENTING AND PENALIZING CARNAPPING

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Anti-Carnapping Act of 1972."

SEC. 2. *Definition of terms.*—The terms "carnapping", "motor vehicle", "defacing or tampering with", "repainting", "body-building", "remodelling", "dismantling", and "overhauling", as used in this Act, shall be understood, respectively, to mean—

"Carnapping" is the taking, with intent to gain, of a motor vehicle belonging to another without the latter's consent, or by means of violence against or intimidation of persons, or by using force upon things.

"Motor vehicle" is any vehicle propelled by any power other than muscular power using the public highways, but excepting road rollers, trolley cars, street-sweepers, sprinklers, lawn mowers, bulldozers, graders, fork-lifts, amphibian trucks, and cranes if not used on public highways, vehicles, which run only on rails or tracks tractors, trailers and traction engines of all kinds used exclusively for agricultural purposes. Trailers having any number of wheels, when propelled or intended to be propelled by attachment to a motor vehicle, shall be classified as separate motor vehicle with no power rating "Defacing or tampering with" a serial number is the erasing, scratching, altering or changing of the original factory-inscribed serial number on the motor vehicle engine, engine block or chassis of any motor vehicle. Whenever any motor vehicle is found to have a serial number on its motor engine, engine block or chassis which is different from that which is listed in the records of the Bureau of Customs for motor vehicles imported into the Philippines, that motor vehicle shall be considered to have a defaced or tampered with serial number.

"Repainting" is changing the color of a motor vehicle by means of painting. There is repainting whenever the new color of a motor vehicle is different from its color as registered in the Land Transportation Commission.

"Body-building" is a job undertaken on a motor vehicle in order to replace its entire body with a new body.

"Remodelling" is the introduction of some changes in the shape or form of the body of the motor vehicle

"Dismantling" is the tearing apart, piece by piece or part by part, of a motor vehicle.

"Overhauling" is the cleaning or repairing of the whole engine of a motor vehicle by separating the motor engine and its parts from the body of the motor vehicle.

SEC. 3. *"Registration of motor vehicle engine, engine block and chassis.*—Within one year after the approval, of this Act, every owner or possessor of unregistered motor vehicle or parts thereof in knock down condition shall register with the Land Transportation Commission the motor vehicle engine, engine block and chassis in his name or in the name of the real owner who shall be readily available to answer any claim over the registered motor vehicle engine, engine block or chassis. Thereafter, all motor vehicle engines, engine blocks and chassis not registered with the Land Transportation Commission shall be considered as untaxed importation or coming from an illegal source or carnapped, and shall be confiscated in favor of the Government.

All owners of motor vehicles in all cities and municipalities are required to register their cars with the local police without paying any charges.

SEC. 4. *Permanent registry of motor vehicle engines, engine blocks and chassis.*—The Land Transportation Commission shall keep a permanent registry of motor vehicle engines, engine blocks and chassis of all motor vehicles, specifying therein their type, make and serial numbers and stating therein the names and addresses of their present and previous owners. Copies of the registry and of all entries made thereon shall be furnished the Philippine Constabulary and all Land Transportation Commission regional, provincial and city branch offices: *Provided*, That all Land Transportation Commission regional, provincial and city branch offices are likewise obliged to furnish copies of all registrations of motor vehicles to the main office and to the Philippine Constabulary.

SEC. 5. *Registration of sale, transfer, conveyance, substitution or replacement of a motor vehicle engine, engine block or chassis.*—Every sale, transfer, conveyance, substitution or replacement of a motor vehicle engine, engine block or chassis of a motor vehicle shall be registered with the Land Transportation Commission. Motor vehicles assembled and rebuilt or repaired by replacement with motor vehicle engines, engine blocks and chassis not registered with the Land Transportation Commission shall not be issued certificates of registration and shall be considered as untaxed imported motor vehicles or motor vehicles carnapped or proceeding from illegal sources.

SEC 6. *Original registration of motor vehicles* —Any person seeking the original registration of a motor vehicle whether that motor vehicle is newly assembled or rebuilt or acquired from a registered owner, shall within one week after the completion of the assembly or rebuilding job or the acquisition thereof from the registered owner, apply to the Philippine Constabulary for clearance of the motor vehicle for registration with the Land Transportation Commission. The Philippine Constabulary shall upon receipt of the application, verify if the motor vehicle or its numbered parts are in the list of carnapped motor vehicles or stolen motor vehicle parts. If the motor vehicle or any of its numbered parts is not in that list, the