

AN ACT TO REGULATE AND CONTROL THE USE OF AND TRAFFIC ON NATIONAL ROADS AS WELL AS CONSTRUCTIONS ALONG THE SAME, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

Commonwealth Act No. 548, May 26, 1940

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/2326efd640af/>

Be it enacted by the National Assembly of the Philippines;

SECTION. 1. To promote safe transit upon, and avoid obstructions on, roads and streets designated as national roads by acts of the National Assembly or by executive orders of the President of the Philippines, the Director of Public Works, with the approval of the Secretary of Public Works and Communications, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to regulate and control the use of and traffic on such roads and streets. Such rules and regulations, with the approval of the President, may contain provisions controlling or regulating the construction of buildings or other structures within a reasonable distance from and along national roads. Such roads may be temporarily, closed to any or all classes of traffic by the Director of Public Works or his duly authorized representative whenever the condition of the road or the traffic thereon makes such action necessary or advisable in the public interest, or for a specified period, with the approval of the Secretary of Public Works and Communications.

Sec. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to convert any part of any national road to his private use or in any manner to obstruct or damage the same or any bridge, culvert, drainage ditch, road sign, or other appurtenance pertaining thereto.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of every Constabulary officer and every provincial, city or municipal police officer to enforce the provisions of this Act and the rules and regulations issued under the authority of the same.

Sec. 4. Any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this Act or the rules and regulations issued thereunder shall be punished, for the first conviction, by a fine of not less than ten nor more than three months, or both; for the second conviction, a fine of not less than twenty nor more than one hundred pesos or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both; for any subsequent conviction, a fine of not less than fifty nor more than five hundred pesos or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

Sec. 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved, May 26, 1940.

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.