



PHILIPPINE COOPERATIVE CENTER

Member: ASEAN Co-operative Organization



PRESS RELEASE

**On the President's Announcement of No Extension to the December 31, 2023
Consolidation Deadline
12 December 2023**

The Philippine Cooperative Center, the United Transport Consolidated Entities of the Philippines, along with its members and allies, welcome President Ferdinand “Bong Bong” Marcos Jr.'s announcement that there will be “no extension” for the December 31, 2023, consolidation deadline for the Public Utility Vehicle Modernization Program.

On December 12, 2023, cooperative and corporate transport groups of the United Transport Consolidated Entities of the Philippines marched toward Malacañang Palace in support of the full implementation of the Public Utility Vehicle Modernization Program (PUVMP1)¹.

Subsequently, the President announced the finality of the consolidation deadline on December 31, 2023.

The President noted that 70% of PUV operators have already committed or consolidated under the PUVM Program. He mentioned that the remaining unconsolidated units should not cause a delay to the modernization program and emphasized adherence to the established deadline for consolidation so that the PUVMP will be fully operationalized. “Hence, the scheduled timeline will not be moved,” the President said.

The Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board stated earlier that PUV drivers and operators not meeting the December 31 deadline will not lose their franchise immediately, as LTFRB still maintains a limited grace period.

Thus, with this positive development, the Philippine Cooperative Center requests President Marcos, Jr. to certify as a priority of the Administration the institutionalization of the PUV Modernization Program by expediting the passage of House Bill 9601 filed by Coop Natcco Party List (CNPL) Representative Felimon Espares and its Senate bill version, Senate Bill 105 filed by Senator Grace Poe. Both bills advocate for the just and humane implementation and transition to public utility modernization.

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¹ The mobilization was decided at the 3rd National Transport Congress held in Caoayan, Ilocos Sur last November 25, 2023. 107 transport nationwide participated in the Transport Congress. This gathering is attended by COOP NATCCO Partylist Representative Espares, Office of Transport Cooperative (OTC) Chairperson Jesus Ferdinand Ortega and LTFRB Technical Consultant Joel Bolano.