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SENATE

P.S. Res No. 112

BY:

Introduced by Senator JOSEPH VICTOR EJERCITO

RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO REVISIT THE EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS OF THE COUNTRY WITH THE END VIEW OF CRAFTING A LEGISLATED COMPREHENSIVE URBAN MASTER PLAN

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

WHEREAS, Section 9, Article II, provides that "*The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.*"

WHEREAS, the Asian Briefing Ltd. has recognized Philippines as one of the fastest growing economies in Asia with an annual GDP growth rate of 6.1 percent. The country made the second highest growing economy in the Asia-Pacific Region, however, this fast-growing economy of the country did not come without an issue.

WHEREAS, despite the country's economic achievement, problems in terms of infrastructures, road management, urban planning and traffic management has been put into the back burner. The last administration only allotted an amount equivalent to 2% up to 3% of Gross Domestic Product to fund the infrastructures projects. Sadly, this miniscule

amount has not been fully utilized; only a handful of projects have been implemented.

WHEREAS, although the country has development plans that detailed every infrastructure that they need to put in place, most of these remain in paper. Every administration changes its priority in terms of infrastructure; Cory Aquino administration did not implement Marcos' development plant, Benigno Aquino III scrapped the infrastructure programs of Arroyo.

WHEREAS, the temporary status of development plans makes it vulnerable to modification and more often than not, revamping of the said plans is the usual course, when the change in administration in the government comes in.

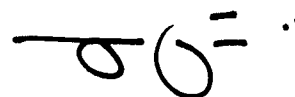
WHEREAS, in instances wherein the infrastructure programs or plans were continued, numerous bottlenecks are being encountered by the implementing agency to start or complete the projects.

WHEREAS, one of the negative effects of the insufficient funding, underspending and temporary development plan is our traffic problem which costs our economy Php2.4 billion a day. Based on the study conducted by JICA, our traffic problem will ballooned to Php6 billion a day if not remedied by 2030.

WHEREAS, to solve our problems in infrastructure and prevent the economic hemorrhage we are suffering due to traffic problem, there is a need to craft, create, design and establish a development plan that can withstand any change of administration.

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing, it is high time that the government map-out its comprehensive urban master plan including guidelines for its strict implementation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE, to urge the Committee on Public Services to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation to revisit the existing development programs of the country with the end view of crafting a legislated comprehensive urban master plan.



JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO