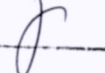


SENATE
P. S. Res No. 825

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay 

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE UTILIZATION OF INLAND
WATERWAY TRANSPORT AND THE REHABILITATION OF THE PASIG RIVER
FERRY SERVICE

1 WHEREAS, Article II, Section 9 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides
2 the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the
3 prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through
4 policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising
5 standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all;

6 WHEREAS, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) defines inland waterway
7 transport (IWT) is a low-cost, environmentally friendly way of transporting people
8 and goods that utilizes the potential of natural and man-made waterway networks;

9 WHEREAS, the Pasig River Ferry Service, which started operations on
10 February 14, 2007. It is the longest serving ferry in the Pasig River with a route of
11 twenty eight kilometers (28km) and two (2) lines;

12 WHEREAS, the Pasig River Ferry Service has a long history of pollution-related
13 problems, odor and garbage problems, and the persistent infestation of water lilies
14 blocking the pathway of boats and the stations that caused difficulties for previous
15 ferry lines in the river to operate;

16 WHEREAS, the latest Pasig River Ferry Service, operated by Nautical
17 Transport Services Incorporated, which was reactivated on April 28, 2014, is
18 currently managed by the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA);

19 WHEREAS, an article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer, dated on April 4,
20 2018, reported that the government is seeking the privatization of the Pasig River
21 Ferry Service which is up for rehabilitation;

22 WHEREAS, the article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer further reported on
23 the rehabilitation of the Pasig River Ferry Service through the construction of twenty
24 nine (29) additional stations to serve 76,000 commuters per day and the addition of
25 twenty four (24) air conditioned boats with fifty (50) sitting capacity each which are
26 to travel with a regular fifteen (15) minute interval;

27 WHEREAS, the article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer also reported that the
28 current Pasig River Ferry Service run by the MMDA has twelve (12) stations, with the
29 PUP Sta. Mesa and Sta. Ana stations currently undergoing repair and maintenance;

30 WHEREAS, an article from the Manila Standard, dated July 31, 2018, reported
31 that the House of Representatives' Committee on Appropriations allotting two (2)
32 billion pesos in the proposed General Appropriations Act of 2019 for the
33 rehabilitation of the Pasig River Ferry Service;

34 WHEREAS, studies from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) show that
35 transporting people and goods over inland waterways, such as rivers and canals, can
36 decrease road traffic, accidents and pollution;

37 WHEREAS, the ADB highly recommends the utilization of inland waterway
38 transport in addressing congestion and capacity problems in land-based transport
39 systems;

40 WHEREAS, a Senate inquiry on the matter is necessary in order to establish
41 an alternative mode of transportation that Metro Manila greatly needs given the
42 current traffic congestion and railway situation for the purpose of providing the
43 people adequate public transportation services;

44 BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate
45 Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the utilization of inland
46 waterway transport and the rehabilitation of the Pasig River Ferry Service.

Adopted,


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator