

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. **31**

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Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

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RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE STATUS AND CONDITION OF ON-GOING PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE ALLEGED RAMPANT SUBCONTRACTING PRACTICE TO UNQUALIFIED AND FINANCIALLY UNSTABLE CONTRACTORS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, THAT UNDERMINES THE TEN-POINT AGENDA OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF HER EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

WHEREAS, Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo declared that part of her legacy program is to pursue infrastructure development through the creation of government centers in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao to better serve the people and establish transportation network and highways;

WHEREAS, as an important component of the 10-point program of the President, the correlative aspect of transparency and accountability in all government procurement of contracts, especially in public works, must be strictly observed and complied with;

WHEREAS, public investments in infrastructure, although needed and required, must be tempered with the need to have reliable and dependable contractors with adequate and sufficient engineering, technical and financial capabilities to undertake these projects;

WHEREAS, for every peso that the government spends on infrastructure, it creates at least a 10 times multiplier in the gross domestic product (GDP), even as high as 20 times of GDP of the country, which emphasizes the importance of having an efficient infrastructure in place to become more competitive in today's world environment;

WHEREAS, government has to do something about the cost overruns, faulty design, poor quality of infrastructure, poor project implementation and the inefficient utilization of official development assistance (ODA), which hampers the realization of the vision of the President to connect the country through transportation networks;

WHEREAS, in the National Capital Region alone, there are several on-going public works projects – particularly, the La Huerta Bridge in Parañaque City, the Sevilla Bridge in Mandaluyong City and the Tullahan Bridge in Valenzuela City – that have

suffered delays in their completion, which has caused sufferings and inconvenience to the general public;

WHEREAS, in various foreign assisted projects, there are allegations of rampant practice of subcontracting of projects to either losing or unqualified contractors, as in the case of Halsema Highway (Baguio-Bontoc Road) in the Cordillera Administrative Region; C-5/Boni Serrano Avenue-Katipunan Avenue Interchange Project; Alegria-Santiago Section of the Mindanao Rehabilitation Project and in other foreign assisted projects that are on-going but where major equipment and key personnel pledged are not on the project sites but instead that of other contractors are working;

WHEREAS, it is urgent for all these public works project to be completed at the soonest possible time without compromising and sacrificing the quality and workmanship of these vital projects, otherwise measure should be taken in order to solve the problems that are being encountered by these projects and to put an end to irregular subcontracting and other anomalous practices altogether;

WHEREAS, it may be necessary to consider the passing of remedial legislation so that public work projects are all completed in time and so that anomalous public works practices are hereafter effectively ruled out. *Now, therefore be it*

*Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To Urge The Committee On Public Works To Conduct An Investigation, In Aid Of Legislation, Into The Status And Condition Of On-Going Public Works Projects, Including The Alleged Rampant Subcontracting Practice And Awarding To Unqualified And Financially Unstable Contractors Of The Department Of Public Works And Highways, That Undermines The Ten-Point Agenda Of The Administration Of Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.*

Adopted,

  
RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.  
Senator