Senate Office of the Secretary

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE P.S. Res. No. <u>169</u>

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Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION AS TO THE INCREASE IN PRICE OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS THAT AFFECTS THE TIMELY IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

1	WHEREAS, the present administration had pronounced the continuation of the
2	implementation of various Infrastructure Projects under the Build Build Build
3	Program;
4	WHEREAS, said vital infrastructure projects was previously stalled due to the
5	proliferation of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country;
6	WHEREAS, amid the decreasing cases of COVID-19, the Philippines had seen
7	the resumption of construction activities involving government projects;
8	WHEREAS, data shows, however, that the wholesale prices of building
9	materials in Metro Manila is in the highest in more than a decade at an annual
10	growth rate of 6.8 percent – the highest since January 2009;
11	WHEREAS, the said price increase of construction materials are projected to
12	continue for the rest of the year and may extend up to 2023;
13	WHEREAS, there has been various causes affecting the price increase of
14	construction materials such as the oil price hike due to Russia-Ukraine war;
15	WHEREAS, said inflation were not considered during the funding and
16	procurement of the various government infrastructure projects, particularly those
17	that were subjected to early procurement activities as allowed under Section 7 of the
18	2016 Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 9184;
19	WHEREAS, given the increase in price of various construction materials,

numerous infrastructure projects may be affected, if not, will be suspended,

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terminated or its procurement be declared a failure since the funds allocated thereof may no longer be sufficient to sustain its implementation;

WHEREAS, if left unresolved, the national government will not succeed in its 30-year Infrastructure Development Plan and shall have an adverse effect to the country's development;

WHEREAS, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is the appropriate government agency that monitors the price index of the construction materials;

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is the construction arm of the State that implements the Infrastructure Projects affected by said price increase;

WHEREAS, there is a need for the Executive Department to put a pre-emptive system to ensure that it will be able to sustain construction activities notwithstanding said inflation;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Senate to provide legislative measures that may address the concern of the National Government to achieve its goal under the said Infrastructure Development Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation as to the increase in price of several construction materials that affects the implementation of various National Infrastructure Projects.

Adopted,

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MARK A. VILLAR