

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES *First Regular Session*

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SENATE P.S. Res. No. 319

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Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

RESOLUTION

INQUIRING, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, AS TO THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN IN THE PHILIPPINES PENDING THE END OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

1 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused drastic changes in the 2 mobility of the general public due to lockdowns, social distancing rules, quarantine 3 regulations, and suspension of the transport system in the country;

WHEREAS, a dramatic reduction in traffic demands during the COVID-19 pandemic and a lesser traffic delay due to limited number of car visibility on the roads was evident;

WHEREAS, under the strict movement restrictions, the traffic flow dropped
almost ninety-four percent (94%) across the three metropolitan areas in the
Philippines;

10 WHEREAS, as the end of the pandemic is already in sight, the state was 11 approached by a sudden increase in the movement of people and the return of 12 traffic situation to its normal congested state;

13 WHEREAS, as of today the volume of vehicles traversing the roads of Metro 14 Manila alone had already returned to a pre-pandemic level which is about 398,000 15 daily or a difference of only around 7,000 vehicles;

WHEREAS, as we adapt the "*new normal"*, it should include a lighter traffic burden to the public through the establishment of a traffic management plan towards this goal;

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WHEREAS, the only visible activity of the Executive is the re-implementation 1 2 of the coding scheme in major public roads and thoroughfares which, however, does not effectively address the worsening traffic in the country as the volumes of 3 vehicles owned by the public had also dramatically increased during the pandemic; 4

WHEREAS, there is a necessity to establish an efficient management plan to 5 address the worsening traffic condition and maintain the order of traffic in this post-6 7 pandemic period;

8 WHEREAS, by the initiative of the Metro Manila Development Management in coordination with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and 17 Metro 9 Manila local government units and concerned national agencies, a comprehensive 10 traffic management plan was created; 11

WHEREAS, there is a need to ascertain that this management plan is fully 12 supported by all branches of the Government in order to determine that there will be 13 no gap from legislative measures that may cause a delay in its implementation; 14

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the appropriate 15 Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the status of the 16 traffic management plan in the Philippines pending the end of the COVI-19 17 pandemic in the Philippines. 18

Adopted,

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m MARK A. VILLAR