



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

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SENATE  
P.S. Res 366

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Introduced by Senator Poe

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**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE COUNTRY'S ROADS, THE PROCEDURE OF DETERMINING ROADS FOR MAINTENANCE WORKS, AND THE REASON BEHIND THE SEEMINGLY REPETITIVE AND FREQUENT ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS, WITH THE END GOAL OF ENACTING THE NECESSARY LEGISLATIVE MEASURE TO ENSURE THE PROPER MONITORING, INVENTORYING, AND AUDITING OF ROAD WORKS AND ROAD MAINTENANCE PROJECTS TO ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY COSTS ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENT AND EASE TRAFFIC FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF MOTORISTS**

**WHEREAS**, according to Article 2, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the promotion of general welfare is essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines has around 216,387 kilometers ("kms") total in terms of the length of its road network, of which 61,093 kms are paved and 155,294 kms are unpaved;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, based on reports, the steady increase of motor vehicle sales in the Philippines is remarkable – the Philippine automobile industry's total sales target for 2016 (370,000 units) was actually surpassed as the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI) and the Association of Vehicle Importers and Manufacturers (AVID) reported a total industry sales of 417,356 units;<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the steady increase of motor vehicles is taking a toll on the repair and construction of roads; however, it appears that the available data with regard to the location, updates, and other information on on-going road repairs is not readily accessible, especially with regard to road repairs or road maintenance work conducted by local government units (LGUs); thus, resulting in what appears to be abusively frequent "road maintenance" works on already existing roads and/or infrastructure;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2085.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://motioncars.inquirer.net/47902/time-high-417356-vehicles-sold-2016>

**WHEREAS**, during the on-going summer vacation and the Lenten season, motorists from Metro Manila took their vehicles to various tourist destinations to neighboring provinces, including San Juan, La Union, Vigan, Ilocos Sur, Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte, Baguio City, Batangas and Baler to name a few;

**WHEREAS**, long weekends and holidays are supposed to be utilized by Filipinos to unwind, recharge and spend quality time with families and friends but to date, a trip outside the Metro has been reportedly, although expectedly, burdensome to motorists due to numerous road works, which make the travel experience similar to that when in a gridlock along EDSA during rush hour;

**WHEREAS**, some motorists have observed that recently repaired roads were again going through road maintenance, thereby regularly leading to long queues of stranded motorists;

**WHEREAS**, while Republic Act No. 8794, or the Motor Vehicle Users' Charge Law, declares that it is the policy of the state to provide for and ensure the adequate maintenance of national and provincial roads, there is a need to come up with effective measures to ensure the proper monitoring, inventorying, and auditing of road works and road maintenance projects as there are instances when a newly constructed or repaired road appears to be intentionally wrecked or destroyed to justify regular spending for road maintenance;

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative for the legislature to review the policy and procedure behind the seemingly repetitive yearly road maintenance conducted on the same roads, because such raises questions as to the quality of roads being constructed, especially since there is a need for the government to judiciously spend money to construct new roads to connect various places all throughout the country;

**WHEREAS**, there is also a need to review how such roads are ascertained to allay the possibility of corrupt practices being involved in the repetitive rehabilitation of the same roads;

**BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Senate of the Philippines, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the country's roads, the procedure of determining roads for maintenance works, and the reason behind the seemingly repetitive and frequent road maintenance works, with the end goal of enacting the necessary legislative measure to ensure the proper monitoring, inventorying, and auditing of road works and road maintenance projects to eliminate unnecessary costs on the part of government and to ease traffic for the convenience of motorists.

*Adopted,*

  
**GRACE POE**