## SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

## SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 624

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## Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA



## RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SERVICES, PUBLIC WORKS, TOURISM, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SEVERE TRAFFIC CONGESTION OF METRO CEBU AND SURROUNDING LOCALITIES WITH THE END VIEW OF FORMULATING COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES TO ADDRESS THE DETERIORATING STATE OF TRAFFIC SIMILARLY EXPERIENCED IN OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTRY

WHEREAS, Metro Cebu is a major economic hub and center of trade and commerce of Central Visayas (Region VII), whose gross regional domestic product (GRDP) has been projected to expand by at least 6.4 percent in 2017;

WHEREAS, Central Visayas has been confirmed by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) to be one of the country's fastest growing regions, providing over 6 percent to the national gross domestic product (GDP) last 2017;

WHEREAS, the robust development of Region VII—a substantial segment of Philippine economy—is threatened by the dreadful traffic congestion that plagues Metro Cebu roads and neighboring localities on a daily basis;

WHEREAS, nearly 575,000 motor vehicles and motorcycles currently registered with the Land Transportation Office (LTO)-Region VII ply through and in between the thoroughfares of the Visayan metropolis, and their numbers are projected to further increase to 800,000 by the end of 2018;

WHEREAS, Metro Cebu's congestion already costs an approximate P132-million worth of wasted man-hours daily, and is exacerbated by the rapid increase of realty developments and easy loan schemes that propel the number of motorcycles and motor vehicles on the streets:

WHEREAS, the potential of Metro Cebu's flourishing tourism industry is also impeded by daylong traffic jams that force the growing 1.5 million local and international tourists to be stranded en route to the Queen City's favorite spots and destinations:

WHEREAS, key government projects have been granted to Metro Cebu to modernize its highways and transportation infrastructure, such as the 74-kilometer Metro Cebu Expressway and connected roads that provide new and alternative routes; the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project that replaces conventional jeepneys with streamlined commuter buses; and the Cebu Monorail Project that stretches over 17 stations from Cebu City to Mandaue City as the first rail commuter, among others;

WHEREAS, issues and concerns specific to Metro Cebu, including traffic management, vehicle registration, road clearance operations, among others, actually have significant impact on big-ticket infrastructure projects of national scope and hence urgently require comprehensive and holistic solutions;

WHEREAS, policies that would be created for Metro Cebu can serve as the blueprint that would ultimately free motorists and commuters from day-to-day gridlocked conditions, similarly experienced in many metropolitan areas of the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate direct the Committees on Public Services, Public Works, and Local Government to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the severe traffic congestion of Metro Cebu and surrounding localities with the end view of formulating comprehensive policies to address the deteriorating state of traffic similarly experienced in other areas of the country.

Adopted,

SONNY ANGARA