

**SENATE**



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

**P. S. Res. No. 81**

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Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

RECEIVED

**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE COMPREHENSIVE TRAFFIC PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT AMID THE WORSENING TRAFFIC GRIDLOCKS WHERE PRECIOUS RESOURCES AND MAN-HOURS ARE WASTED, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF DETERMINING IF SUCH TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN WOULD ACTUALLY EASE CONGESTION IN MAJOR URBAN CENTERS AND SPEED UP THE SAFE AND EFFICIENT MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND GOODS**

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution provides that the State shall promote a just and  
2 dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation  
3 and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social  
4 services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved  
5 quality of life for all;

6 WHEREAS, the cost of traffic in Metro Manila is estimated at P3.5 billion daily  
7 in 2018, quantified by wasted time, fuel and lost human productivity, and was  
8 logged at 13.9 percent of the country's gross domestic product;

9 WHEREAS, the total number of motor vehicles registered with the Land  
10 Transportation Office (LTO) in 2018 reached 11.59 million wherein almost a third of  
11 the vehicle registration is in the National Capital Region;

12 WHEREAS, the recurrence of traffic gridlocks in Metro Manila and even in  
13 other major cities around the country has now reached critical level that sends our  
14 streets into chaos, making the movement of people and goods constricted,  
15 inefficient and unsafe;

16 WHEREAS, Metro Manila may soon become "uninhabitable" if roads and other  
17 infrastructure are not upgraded immediately as the volume of vehicles sold is

1 expected to surge to 500,000 by 2020;

2 WHEREAS, traffic expert Regin Regidor of the University of the Philippines -  
3 National Center for Transportation Studies (UP-NCTS) has recommended the  
4 construction of more flyovers in heavily congested areas and the development of  
5 country's public transportation and mass transit system;

6 WHEREAS, another traffic expert, Rene Santiago in a paper uploaded on on-  
7 line news media portal Rappler, pointed out that building more roads may bring  
8 temporary relief but is akin to "buying a bigger pair of pants to solve the problem of  
9 obesity";

10 WHEREAS, the same Filipino traffic expert noted that urban mobility needs a  
11 good public transport system;

12 WHEREAS, traffic management solutions employed by the Metro Manila  
13 Development Authority (MMDA) through the years like number-coding, bus  
14 segregation scheme, yellow lane, U-turn slots and other traffic innovations need  
15 serious overhaul;

16 WHEREAS, instead of optimizing road assets, Metro Manila moved backward  
17 and dismantled nearly 50% of the intersections in favor of the "primitive and  
18 uncoordinated U-turn schemes;"

19 WHEREAS, the National Economic and Development Authority Board  
20 approved the USD57 billion Japan International Cooperation Agency 'dream plan'  
21 released in June 2014;

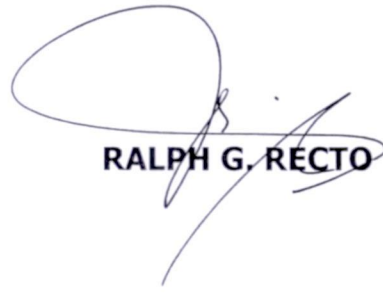
22 WHEREAS, the Dream Plan was formulated to emphasize the need to  
23 establish better north-south connectivity and appropriate hierarchy of different  
24 transportation modes such as roads, railways, and other mass transits;

25 WHEREAS, the inquiry should focus on the capacity of agencies concerned to  
26 execute the traffic roadmap and devise ways for its successful implementation and  
27 ensure the efficient, safe and fast transport of people and products from one  
28 destination to another: Now, therefore, be it

29 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To direct the Senate  
30 Committee on Public Services to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the  
31 comprehensive traffic management program of the government amid the worsening  
32 traffic gridlocks where precious resources and man-hours are wasted, with the end

- 1 in view of determining if such traffic management plan would actually ease
- 2 congestion in major urban centers and speed up the safe and efficient movement of
- 3 people and goods.

Adopted,



**RALPH G. RECTO**

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