OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

7 JUL -2 AIG:58

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 352

RECEIVED BY:

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to restore, rehabilitate and extend the existing lines of the Philippine National Railways (PNR).

In most of the world economic powers, transportation has played a vital role in their economic development. The existence of a viable and efficient mass transport system is a manifestation of the government's commitment towards the desired economic development.

The Philippines believes in this example, and as such, it has adopted measures geared towards the establishment of a mass transport system. The Philippine National Railways was created in 1964. In 1971, the capitalization of the PNR was increased with the end in view of extending its coverage. However, due to the convergence of various reasons, the expansion was not realized, its existing lines deteriorated and the PNR incurred irreversible losses.

Today, the need to restore, rehabilitate and modernize our public transport system has become more necessary to help boost our ailing economy by providing the necessary infrastructure for development.

It is for these reasons that the enactment of this bill is earnestly sought.

INGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

Senator

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AN ACT

RESTORING, REHABILITATING AND MODERNIZING THE OLD AND EXISTING LINES OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS (PNR), EXTENDING THESE LINES FURTHER AS PROVIDED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6366, TO PROVIDE A VIABLE PUBLIC RAILWAY TRANSPORT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS NECESSARY THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Railways Modernization Act of 2007".

- SEC 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby adopted the policy of the state to promote industrialization by providing the necessary infrastructure that shall optimize the opportunity of development in various regions of the country.
- SEC 3. Restoration, Rehabilitation and Extension of Railways. The existing lines of the Philippine National Railways (PNR) are hereby restored and rehabilitated. These existing lines shall be further extended as originally provided under Republic Act No. 6366.
- SEC 4. Appropriation. The amount necessary as equity of the Republic of the Philippines for the use of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) is hereby appropriated from the unappropriated fund of the National Treasury.
- SEC 5. Implementing Rules. The Secretary of Transportation and Communication shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.
- SEC 6. *Effectivity*. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.