Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1666

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## Introduced by HONORABLE STRIKE B. REVILLA

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

A study conducted by the Japan International Cooperation (JICA) has found that the national economy lost 2.4 billion pesos per day in 2012, and is projected to lose up to 6 billion pesos a day by 2030, to traffic congestion in the National Capital Region (NCR) and other urban centers throughout the country. What should take only minutes of travel in public thoroughfares take hours.

Traffic congestion is a result of lack of proper infrastructure which includes roads, bridges, drainage and flood control facilities. Government is even constrained to suspend school and work during the rainy season because of flooding, which again translates to economic losses.

It is a fact that traffic congestion in Metro Manila has direct relationship and impact on nearby urban Local Government Units (LGUs) like the City of Bacoor. The City of Bacoor, and other LGUs covered by this bill serves as the ingress and egress to and from Metro Manila. Millions of workers of Metro Manila reside in these LGUs and the big volume commuters to and from these localities likewise contribute to the crisis experienced in the NCR.

This situation has brought about a crisis in the Greater Manila Area and other urban centers in the country. It not only impedes the mobility of people, goods and services, but also threatens the livability of our cities. Drastic traffic reduction measures are necessary to be undertaken through traffic management reforms.

This bill wishes to address this crisis, stop economic losses as a result thereof, and provide relief to the millions of commuters, by granting emergency powers to the President of the Republic of the Philippines, empowering him to implement emergency measures and mechanisms for the same.

Hence, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

REP. STRIKE B. REVILLA 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Cavite

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HOUSE BILL NO 1666

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# AN ACT PRESCRIBING URGENT RELATED MEASURES NECESSARY AND PROPER TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THE PUBLIC THOROUGFARE CRISIS IN GREATER MANILA AREA AND OTHER URBAN CENTERS IN THE COUNTRY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Short Title.- This Act shall be known as the "Public Thoroughfare Crisis Act of 2016."

Section 2. Declaration of Policy.- It is hereby declared the policy of the State to adopt adequate and effective measures to address the alarming public thoroughfare and flood crisis within Greater Manila Area and other urban centers in the country as well that has disrupted the country's economic and social life and assumed the nature and magnitude of a public calamity.

Section 3. Greater Manila Area. – It is hereby declared that this Act shall cover portions of the Greater Manila Area which covers the National Capital Region (NCR) and the following cities/municipalities adjacent:

Province of Bulacan:

Meycauayan

Obando

San Jose del Monte City

Province of Cavite

Bacoor City

Imus City

Kawit

Province of Laguna

San Pedro City

Biñan City

Santa Rosa City

Province of Rizal

Antipolo City

Cainta

San Mateo

Rodriguez

Section 4. Alternative Methods of Procurement.- Pursuant to the above declared policy and in the public interest, the President of the Republic will be authorized to adopt alternative methods of procurement for the construction, repair, rehabilitation, improvement or maintenance of public thoroughfare and flood control projects aimed at the reduction of traffic congestion within Greater Manila Area and other urban centers in the country. These include limited source bidding, direct contracting, repeat order, shopping, and negotiated procurement.

Section 5. Establishment of a Sole Urban Traffic Management Authority. The President is hereby empowered to establish the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), the Department of Transportation and Office of the President as the sole urban traffic management authority in Greater Manila Area and other urban centers in the country to streamline the management of traffic. For this purpose, the President may abolish or create offices; split, group or merge offices; transfer functions, equipment, properties, records and personnel, institute drastic traffic reduction measures and take such other actions necessary to carry out the purpose herein declared.

Section 6. Subsidy. – The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) shall set aside ten percent (10%) of its annual aggregate gross earnings for the next five (5) years as subsidy to MMDA, the Department of Transportation and Office of the President; *Provided*, that such percentage allocation shall be based on gross revenue after deducting the five percent (5%) franchise tax and the fifty percent (50%) income share of the National Government.

Section 7. Duration of Grant of Powers. – The authority granted to the President under this Act shall subsist, be valid and effective for a period of two (2) years from the effectivity of the Act, unless sooner withdrawn by a resolution of Congress, without prejudice to rights and benefits that may have been vested and culpabilities and liability that may have been incurred.

Section 8. Oversight Committees. – There is hereby created an Oversight Committee in each House of Congress to be composed of five (5) members of each, as may be designated by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to monitor the implementation of this Act and the exercise of the authority granted thereunder.

The Oversight Committees shall submit periodic reports, evaluations and recommendations to the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Section 9. Report to Congress. – The President shall submit a quarterly report to Congress on the implementation of this Act.

Section 10. Separability Clause. – If for any reason any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 11. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 12. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect on the day following its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,