

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**Third Regular Session**

**House Resolution No. 235**



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**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT**

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**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION  
BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
ON THE TWO HUNDRED NINETY NINE (299) IRRIGATION PROJECTS  
FLAGGED BY COMMISSION ON AUDIT**

1       **WHEREAS**, the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) is mandated to help the  
2 country's program on rice self-sufficiency by infrastructure projects in line with irrigation  
3 and agricultural development.

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5       **WHEREAS**, The Commission of Audit (COA) released an audit report that stated  
6 that there are more than twenty (20) Billion contracts that incurred significant delays in the  
7 performance of contractors and NIA's inadequate planning, inefficient execution of surveys  
8 and investigations and the recurring issues on the acquisition of Right of Way (ROW). And  
9 that most funding were initiated by NIA's Central Office with 55 contracts and the  
10 contractors were delayed by around 15 to 2,287 days.

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12       **WHEREAS**, a review from the COA disclosed that the NIA Management had not  
13 been able to fully address the recurring issue on considerable delays in the implementation of  
14 NIA Projects.

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16       **WHEREAS**, these delays cost an unsurmountable amount of government funds that  
17 was put to waste and deprived the Filipino's of its benefits.


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19       **WHEREAS**, there is an overwhelming need to conduct an immediate investigation to  
20 find out if such unfinished and uncompleted projects were due to the contractor's fault or to  
21 the government's neglect and corruption in the agency.

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23       **WHEREAS**, there is need to remove the bureaucratic bottlenecks to allow the  
24 expeditious completion of these irrigation projects to cushion the adverse impact of Rice  
25 Tarrification Law to farmers who continue to bear the brunt of wrong Policy and government  
26 ineptness.

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28       **BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the appropriate  
29 committee of the House of Representatives immediately conduct an investigation in aid of  
30 legislation to revisit the budget allocated to NIA, qualification and bidding procedures for

31 contractors and implementation procedures of irrigation projects, including the current  
32 policies, standards and rules that parties adhere to.

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34 Adopted.

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ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT  
MAGSASAKA Partylist