

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Resolution No. 56



Introduced by Honorable FREDERICK W. SIAO

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION TO CAUSE THE IMMEDIATE REVIVAL OF THE STEEL INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES THROUGH THE REOPENING OF THE NATIONAL STEEL CORPORATION IN ILIGAN CITY AND ITS FEASIBILITY TO BE DESIGNATED AND OPERATE AS A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

WHEREAS, during its heyday, the National Steel Corporation (NSC) contributed substantially to our country's annual gross domestic product (GDP) and Iligan City, being the fortunate city where the NSC is located, benefitted significantly from its operations and was then even rightfully dubbed as the "Industrial City of the South";

WHEREAS, due to several reasons, mostly political and economic, aside from apparent mismanagement, the NSC suffered heavy losses until it was privatized; and while in private hands it continued to incur huge debts from various creditors which brought it to its forced liquidation, and compounded by its unpaid taxes to the local government of Iligan, eventually led to its myriad problems that resulted to its current sorry state today;

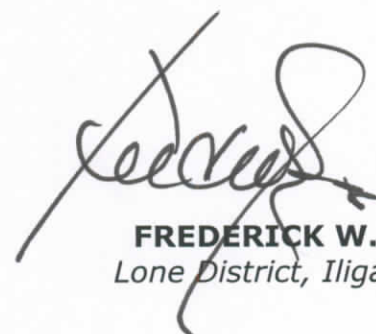
WHEREAS, the Philippines aim to become an industrialized nation and no less than President Rodrigo Roa Duterte maintains that the main path to industrialization is the revival of industries that provide the backbone for manufacturing. As such, reviving the steel industry is a step in the right direction and aligned with the 'Build, Build, Build Program' of the government, which seeks to accelerate infrastructure spending and develop industries that will yield robust growth, create jobs and improve the lives of Filipinos;

WHEREAS, it was declared that the current thrust of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) is to establish as many economic zones (ecozones) as possible in concurrence with the current administration's goal to make our country a top Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) destination which essentially requires that infrastructure support is in place for ecozone developers as well as ecozone locator companies;

WHEREAS, the NSC received interests from prospective investors wanting to partner for the rehabilitation and/or revival of its operations, foremost of which is the Global Steel Corporation of India which in fact already made a substantial amount of investment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives direct the Committee on Economic Affairs, and the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization, and the Committee on Trade and Industry, to conduct a joint inquiry, in aid of legislation, to cause the immediate revival of the steel industry in the Philippines through the reopening of the National Steel Corporation in Iligan City and its feasibility to be designated and operate as a special economic zone.

Adopted,


FREDERICK W. SIAO
Lone District, Iligan City