

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1609



Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill contemplates not just a timely but a long-term solution to the problem of congestion at the Manila Port due to the fact that volume of container traffic is more than this port could handle.

Unless a policy is put in effect, the problem worsens. Thus, this measure mandates the Philippine Ports Authority to shift container traffic to Subic and Batangas Ports and it should renegotiate current contracts for further port development at Manila Port to instead be implemented at Subic and Batangas Ports in terms of new terminals and additional berths.

This instant measure realizes that Metro Manila is congested. And a major contributor to this congestion is the huge cargo traffic coming in and out of the port of Manila. And compared to the Subic and Batangas Ports which are underutilized, the Manila Port has overutilized its port and gone beyond its desired container limit.

Henceforth, for a well-studied 'win-win' solution that will transform Subic and Batangas Ports as new economic magnets on the one hand, and maintain Manila Port to a desirable level of cargo or container traffic thereby easing congestion in Metro Manila, this bill is strongly endorsed for its immediate passage.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORITY TO SHIFT CONTAINER TRAFFIC TO BATANGAS AND SUBIC PORTS THEREBY PUTTING A CAP ON THE VOLUME OF CONTAINERS AT THE MANILA PORT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Container Traffic Cap in Ports Act."

SEC. 2. The national government shall hereby execute the policy to put a cap on the volume of containers being handled at the Manila Port in order to decongest traffic and shift container traffic to Subic and Batangas Ports;

Provided, that the Philippine Ports Authority shall implement further port development by renegotiating its current contracts for the Manila Port in favor of the development of new terminals and additional berths in Subic and Batangas Ports.

SEC. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,