

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

13<sup>th</sup> Congress  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3158



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Introduced by **Honorable PEDRO M. PANCHO**  
**Honorable MARY ANN L. SUSANO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Traffic has been a perennial problem in Metro Manila. Despite the government's effort to ease the problem by improving the existing roadways and avenues, it nevertheless cannot cope up with the fast and marked increase in the number of motor vehicles occupying the roads. And to aggravate the already chaotic traffic problem, provincial buses are allowed to establish and maintain bus terminals within the metropolis. Even without these provincial buses, traffic situation will still be less ideal.

If only to offer a substantial solution to the present traffic condition in Metro Manila, the attached bill seeks to establish Central Bus Terminals for all provincial buses coming from places north and south of Metro Manila and provide for its implementation under the provisions of Republic Act 6957. Otherwise known as the Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) Law, it entices the private sector to invest and share in the benefits derived from the project. Areas along the South and North Expressways can be utilized as sites for the proposed terminals. Properly administered and operated, the project is expected to provide employment for the people and generate revenue for the government. The scheme will also reduce the importation of vehicles because each unit will be able to make more trips. It will also result in savings in terms of reduced fuel consumption.

Aside from the perceived traffic decongestion, thousands of hectares of idle government owned land can help reduced the big budget deficit if the different government departments will properly harnessed their potential to generate billions of pesos in revenues and a great number of employment opportunities. For instance, I introduced a bill a few years ago to authorize the construction of a centralized bus terminal in Quezon City just across the street from the SM North along EDSA to provide a convenient, safe and comfortable one (1) Stop-Shopping Mall to travelers from the north and southern provinces. Precisely, the said bill had so many purposes, decongesting traffic, developing the area with income producing activities like hotels, malls, restaurants, garments and other money earning sources. Well, the bill didn't find enough support, so it died a natural death.

Clearly, a centralized bus terminal will eliminate Metro Manila bus operations along EDSA by directly delivering the passengers coming from the northern and southern provinces including the MRT passengers located in the same area to the general bus terminal. The hundreds of thousands of commuters every day shall encourage the investors to develop the property by building hotels, malls, restaurants, snack bars and other facilities that cater to the needs of commuters.

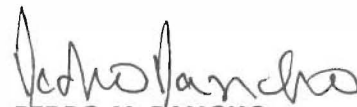
The land remains idle for several decades for no sign of improvement that will generate income to support our project that will attract foreign visitors. The land is located in the heart of the commercial center and can be easily developed by the investors whose return on investment is assured by the million people who will gather in the place everyday.

The transportation from the northern and southern provinces will be a very comfortable travel service. The commuters can even go shopping without using another vehicle. They can even bring their children to see the shopping centers avoiding transferring from one vehicle to another.

The strategy for the government is to consider these idle lands as the best solution for economic recovery and convince the investors that the property is profitable to put in capital.

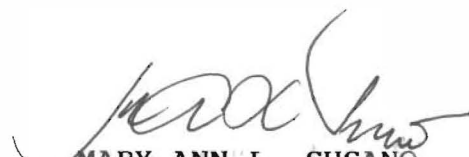
When I first filed that bill, I suggested to Mr. Gokongwei and former Secretary Garcia where the centralized bus terminal may be constructed and leased for 75 years, but until now nothing has been done in the commercial center that will provide earning to the NHA. The billions of pesos lost can save our country from our big budget deficit. It is about time that the government should earn from this idle land by constructing or by authorizing the construction of the Centralized Bus Terminal for the benefit of the people.

Accordingly, approval of the attached bill is earnestly requested.



**PEDRO M. FANCHO**

Congressman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Bulacan



**MARY ANN L. SUSANO**

Congresswoman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District of QC

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING GRAND CENTRAL BUS TERMINALS FOR ALL PROVINCIAL BUSES COMING FROM AREAS NORTH AND SOUTH OF METRO MANILA AND PROVIDING FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6957 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BUILD OPERATE AND TRANSFER (BOT) SCHEME. "**

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives in session assembled.

Section 1. There is hereby constructed and established under the supervision and control of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in coordination with the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) Grand Central Bus Terminals North and South of Metro Manila, with complete facilities for the convenience of the passengers and the general public, under the Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) Scheme.

Section 2. the DPWH and the DOTC are hereby authorized to negotiate with the owner/s for the acquisition of the land sites of the Grand Central Bus Terminals and to formulate and promulgate the appropriate and necessary guidelines for the construction, administration, operation and maintenance of the same.

Section 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED.