

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 4362



Introduced by Honorable BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Too much have been said about, and too many complaints have been hurled against, the present Chairman of the Metro Manila Development Authority, BAYANI F. FERNANDO. These, undoubtedly, have created confusions and irritations among almost all sectors of society, especially the transportation sector, motor vehicle owners and the riding public. The efficiency and relevancy of the MMDA have thus been put in issue to the extent that there seems to be a clamor for its abolition.

The author of this Bill, however does not subscribe to the abolition of the MMDA because with traffic congestion/management as one of the major problems in the Metropolitan Manila Area, there is a need for a specific body to handle the same. To better define the powers of the Chairman of the MMDA which seems to be the root cause of all these confusions, irritations and displeasures between the Chairman on one hand and many local chief executives within the Metro Manila Area on the other hand, there is a need to amend the law creating the MMDA.

The approval of this Bill is therefore requested.


BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTIONS 4, 6 AND 7 of REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7924 CREATING
THE METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

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

SECTION I. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7924 is hereby amended to read
as follows:

“SEC. 4. Metro Manila COMMISSION. – The governing board and policy making body of the MMDA shall be the Metro Manila COMMISSION, HEREIN AFTER REFERRED TO AS COMMISSION, COMPOSED OF SEVEN (7) MEMBERS.

“THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE ELECTED BY ALL THE ELECTED OFFICIALS of the cities and municipalities enumerated in Section 1 hereof, FROM AMONG THEMSELVES WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS FOLLOWING THEIR ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE. THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE CO-TERMINOUS WITH THEIR POSITIONS FOR WHICH THEY WERE ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE.

“The COMMISSION shall be headed by a chairman, who shall be CHOSEN BY THE MEMBERS THEREOF FROM AMONG THEMSELVES.”

SECTION 2. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 7924 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 6. Functions of the Metro Manila COMMISSION.

“(a) The COMMISSION shall be the policy-making body of the MMDA.

“(b) x x x x

“(c) It may increase BUT NOT DECREASE the rate of allowances and per diems of the members of the COMMISSION to be effective during the term of the succeeding COMMISSION . x x x x.

“(d) x x x x.”

SECTION 3. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 7924 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 7. Functions of the Chairman. The Chairman of the COMMISSION shall:

“(a) Appoint x x x. The Chairman is hereby authorized to engage the services of experts/consultants x x x UPON PRIOR APPROVAL BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION;

“(b) Execute the policies and measures approved by the COMMISSION and be responsible for the efficient and effective day to day management of the operations of the MMDA;

“(c) x x x for submission to the COMMISSION:

“(d) Submit for the consideration of the COMMISSION x x x..

“(e) Subject to the guidelines and policies set by the COMMISSION, xxx;

“(f) Prepare an annual report x x x for submission to the COMMISSION x x x;

“(g) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the COMMISSION WITHOUT ANY POWER OR AUTHORITY TO

UNDERTAKE ANY PROJECT OR DO ANYTHING NOT EXPRESSLY
GRANTED HIM BY LAW OR BY THE COMMISSION.”

SECTION 4. The Metro Manila Council. The composition of the Metro Manila Council created under Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7294 shall remain and shall continue to discharge their functions as such until the members of the COMMISSION are elected in accordance with Sec. 4 of said law as hereby amended.

SECTION 5. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval, Approved.