

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8108



Introduced by Representative ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

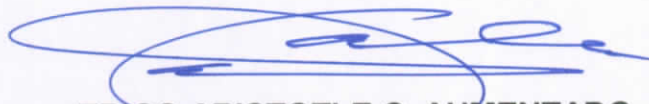
This bill seeks to prioritize the construction of special concrete local roads in areas where the national road network is almost one hundred percent (100%) completed.

Studies have shown that transport infrastructure plays a vital role in economic development and poverty reduction and the same is necessary for sustained growth. Transport infrastructure such as roads, particularly local roads in provincial, city, municipal or barangay, connects less developed other local roads in the remote rural and upland areas to the business centers in urban areas and makes possible the transport of goods and services in an efficient manner.

The financing of the construction of local roads and other local infrastructure cannot be left to the local government units. Most of the local government units in the country are still incapable of generating funds necessary for such construction. Under Section 17 (c) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991," the national government agencies are still allowed to implement devolved public works and infrastructure projects and other facilities, programs, and services which are funded by the national government under the annual General Appropriations Act and other special laws.

According to the Philippines Institute for Development Studies, through its study entitled "Investing Local Roads for Economic Growth," local road investments work for growth and poverty reduction in local areas. The said study also says that a good network of roads at the local level is indispensable in the timely movement of people and transport of goods with low transaction costs. Further, a good local road infrastructure is correlated with local economic growth and poverty reduction.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO

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AN ACT
PRIORITIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF SPECIAL CONCRETE LOCAL ROAD
NETWORK IN AREAS WHERE THE NATIONAL ROAD NETWORK IS ALMOST
ONE HUNDRED PERCENT (100%) COMPLETED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Construction Priority.** - In the construction of special concrete
2 local roads, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall give
3 priority to local roads whose residents volunteer labor services in the construction
4 thereof and for this purpose, issue guidelines and receive applications therefor:
5 *Provided*, That the construction of the special concrete local roads shall be given the
6 highest priority in areas where the National Road Network is almost one hundred
7 percent (100%) completed; *Provided, Further*, That no special concrete local roads
8 shall be constructed without the proper Certification from the DPWH Regional
9 Director and the City or Municipal Development Council concerned of either the
10 road's poor or bad surface condition, have major pavement deficiencies, or based on
11 the list of program by the DPWH for pavement patching, repair, maintenance or
12 rehabilitation; *Provided, Finally*, That the construction of the special concrete local
13 roads shall be in coordination with the Representative of the legislative district and
14 the local officials concerned.

SEC. 2. The amount needed for the implementation of the construction of special concrete local roads throughout the country shall be included in the appropriations of the DPWH under the General Appropriations Act: *Provided*, That funds for projects to be undertaken by the City or Municipal Development Council shall be released by the DPWH to said council: *Provided, further*, That portions of amounts available from official foreign assistance and concessional loans that are unutilized in any given year shall be availed of by the President to augment the fund of the Department until this program is completed: *Provided, finally*, That these special concrete local roads shall be constructed until it is one hundred percent (100%) completed.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,