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**Republic of the Philippines**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**Quezon City**

**First Regular Session**  
**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**

**House Bill No. 3959**



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Introduced by REP. JESUS MANUEL “BONG” C. SUNTAY

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

15 The Constitution enjoins the State to promote a sustained and inclusive path to economic  
16 growth, balanced regional development, and the equitable distribution of opportunities  
17 and wealth. It recognizes that the very foundation of such progress lies in the timely  
18 provision of infrastructure systems that connect peoples, enable commerce, protect  
19 communities, and secure the welfare of future generations.

20 Yet at this juncture in our national life, the Philippines faces a critical inflection point.  
21 Our archipelagic character continues to magnify disparities between regions, with certain  
22 provinces locked in cycles of poverty due to inadequate connectivity and logistical  
23 barriers. Our cities, beset by congestion, flooding, and pollution, cry out for long-term  
24 solutions anchored not in fragmented projects but in integrated national planning. Our  
25 countryside, rich in potential, still awaits the enabling infrastructure for modern  
26 agriculture, food logistics, renewable energy, and sustainable water management.

27 The MIND Act responds to this national imperative. It mandates the formulation of a 30-  
28 year Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Masterplan (CIDMP), reviewed every  
29 decade, that shall embody the Republic’s vision of progress: a prosperous middle-class  
30 society where no Filipino remains poor, where every citizen enjoys decent housing,  
31 reliable transport, affordable energy, universal connectivity, and resilient public facilities.

32 The measure creates the MIND Council, chaired by the President and composed of key  
33 Cabinet Secretaries, LGU league representatives, and industry stakeholders, to ensure  
34 that infrastructure policy is harmonized across all levels of government and society.

35 It is designed to be not only whole-of-government, but whole-of-nation—ensuring that  
36 the masterplan is guided by technical expertise, shaped by community consultation, and  
37 energized by private sector participation.

38 The CIDMP shall integrate the development of transport and logistics, energy, ICT, water  
39 resources, social infrastructure, and agri-fisheries modernization systems into a coherent  
40 blueprint. It shall enshrine principles of poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability,  
41 climate resilience, public access, affordability, and value for money in setting national  
42 priorities

1 In doing so, the MIND Act acknowledges that infrastructure is not an end in itself but a  
2 means toward achieving higher human development: longer and healthier lives, inclusive  
3 prosperity, and a society built on trust.

4 The enactment of this measure will mark a turning point. It will lift the Philippines from  
5 piecemeal and politicized projects to a framework of continuity, foresight, and national  
6 unity in infrastructure development. It is a call to build not only roads, bridges, ports, and  
7 power plants—but to build a Republic that is prepared, connected, resilient, and just.

8  
9 In the passage of this Act, we affirm that the prosperity of the nation is inseparable from  
10 the quality of the systems that bind its people together. We declare that the task of nation-  
11 building is, in essence, the task of building the very foundations upon which Filipinos live,  
12 move, and dream.

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

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**REP. JESUS MANUEL “BONG” C. SUNTAY**

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13                                   **AN ACT MANDATING THE FORMULATION AND**  
14                                   **INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE**  
15                                   **DEVELOPMENT MASTERPLAN, ESTABLISHING THE MASTERPLAN FOR**  
16                                   **INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (MIND) COUNCIL,**  
17                                   **AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

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21           Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “*Masterplan for*  
22 *Infrastructure and National Development (MIND) Act.*”

23           Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes the vital role of an efficient and  
24 integrated infrastructure system in promoting job creation to drive inclusive economic  
25 growth and sustainable development.

26           The State hereby adopts a policy to develop reforms in infrastructure planning to  
27 achieve higher economic growth trajectory and improve the quality of life of the Filipinos.

28           Sec. 3. Purposes and Objectives. – The purposes and objectives of this Act are:

- 29           a) Support the achievement of the overall long-term development vision of the  
30 country as a prosperous, predominantly middle-class society, where no one is  
31 poor, and where Filipinos shall live long and healthy lives, be smart and  
32 innovative, and live in a high-trust society;
- 33           b) Provide an overall guide for the preferred locations, magnitude,  
34 interrelationships, and timing of public and private infrastructure investments to  
35 maximize their impact to the economy and society;

- 1 c) Institutionalize long-term development plan in infrastructure investment  
2 planning and implementation to ensure policy continuity and consistency; and  
3 d) Define the roles of implementing agencies in the development of essential  
4 transport, energy, water resources, information and communications technology,  
5 social infrastructure systems, and other basic overhead facilities in the country.

6 Sec. 4. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act:

- 7 a) *Agri-Fisheries Modernization and Food Logistics infrastructure* refers to facilities  
8 which include farms access roads, trading posts, agricultural tramlines and other  
9 market infrastructure, fish ports, irrigation and soil and water conservation  
10 structures, post-harvest facilities such as warehouses and cold storage, meat  
11 establishment infrastructure such as slaughterhouses, and production  
12 infrastructure such as greenhouses, hydroponics, aquaponics, and food irradiation  
13 facilities. This includes the health and safety infrastructure required to meet  
14 regulatory standards;
- 15 b) *Energy infrastructure* refers to projects for power generation, transmission and  
16 distribution, and electrification, as well as for exploration, development,  
17 production, storage and distribution of energy resources including those based on  
18 or using water resources, fossil fuel, geothermal, solar, wind, wave, and other  
19 emerging technologies including nuclear;
- 20 c) *Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure* refers to  
21 facilities that provide access to information through telecommunications,  
22 including the internet, wireless networks, telephone systems, and other  
23 communication media;
- 24 d) *Social infrastructure* refers to school, buildings, hospitals and health facilities,  
25 public housing, solid waste management, penitentiary, evacuation centers, and  
26 other public and community facilities, including waste management and circular  
27 economy infrastructure that covers solid waste collection, distribution and  
28 disposal, waste aggregation and transfer stations, waste markets, material  
29 recycling, sustainable production, material recovery, and waste-to-energy  
30 facilities;
- 31 e) *Transport and Logistics infrastructure* refers to (1) roads, bridges, tunnels, grade  
32 separation, and related structures; (2) rail, bus rapid transit and other mass

1 transport systems, including subways, fixed facilities, and rolling stock; (3)  
2 seaports, including terminals and navigation facilities; (4) airports, including  
3 terminals and navigation facilities; (5) intermodal transport facilities, including  
4 terminals; and (6) supply chain infrastructure including warehouses and  
5 distribution centers. Transport infrastructure includes support systems for the  
6 operation of transport services and facilities, such as intelligent transport systems;  
7 and

8 f) *Water Resources infrastructure* refers to (1) water supply, sewerage and sanitation  
9 for domestic, commercial and industrial uses; (2) irrigation for agriculture; and (3)  
10 flood control and drainage facilities, including dams, reservoirs and coastal zone  
11 protection.

12 Sec. 5. Formulation of a Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan  
13 (CIDMP). – There shall be formulated a 30-year Comprehensive Infrastructure  
14 Development Masterplan (CIDMP) which shall set-forth the country's long-term vision,  
15 goals, and strategy for infrastructure development. The CIDMP shall be the framework  
16 for forward planning, prioritization, and development of infrastructure investment and  
17 programs, taking into consideration the country's long-term national development plans,  
18 including the medium-term Philippine Development Plan. It shall serve as the integrated  
19 framework of infrastructure programs and projects of the government enterprise  
20 architecture.

21 The CIDMP shall be reviewed and updated every 10 years or earlier as the need  
22 arises, in anticipation of disruptions, emergencies, crises, and new and emerging  
23 technologies and trends; *Provided*, That such early review and update be consistent with  
24 long-term national development vision and goals.

25 In order to effectively implement this Act, a whole-of-government approach shall  
26 be adopted for the formulation and adoption of the CIDMP. This approach shall facilitate  
27 engagement with government agencies, instrumentalities, government-owned and -  
28 controlled corporations (GOCCs), local government units (LGUs), regional development  
29 councils (RDCs), ICT Councils, technical and standards organizations and other relevant  
30 stakeholders towards ensuring the full and effective implementation of this Act.

31 Sec. 6. Infrastructure Policies and Strategies. – The CIDMP shall pursue the  
32 following national development policies and strategies of the Government:

- a) Establishment of a whole-of-government strategy to coordinate infrastructure investment planning and implementation that promote effective collaboration among key actors, with the National Economic Development Authority as the lead coordinator;
- b) Prioritization of projects of national significance which are consistent with the approved national and physical framework plans, as well as with national, regional, local, and sectoral development plans, roadmaps, and master plans;
- c) Observance of the following principles in the determination of priorities: (1) effectiveness in meeting national development objectives; (2) economic feasibility and impact; (3) poverty alleviation and social inclusion; (4) environmental sustainability and climate resilience; (5) safety; (6) security; (7) affordability; (8) public access; (9) technical readiness for implementation; and (10) financial viability and value for money;
- d) Harmonization and coordination of national, regional, and local infrastructure development goals;
- e) Promotion of public consultation and feedback mechanisms on infrastructure investment priorities and projects at the national and local levels;
- f) Maximization of private sector participation in the planning, development, financing, design, construction and operation and maintenance of infrastructure;
- g) Utilization of any of the following modes in infrastructure implementation: (a) by the concerned national government agencies and GOCCs as provided under their respective charters; (b) under Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) arrangements; or (c) in partnership with LGUs to complement public finance as well as promote technology and knowledge transfers;
- h) Implementation of adequate infrastructure asset preservation and maintenance strategies;
- i) Development of an efficient, safe, economical, accessible, affordable, reliable, integrated, seamless, convenient, user-oriented, disaster-resilient, and environmentally sustainable national infrastructure system consistent with the latest industry standards;

- j) Establishment of a robust national geospatial infrastructure that will provide location-specific data to support evidence-based planning and implementation of infrastructure projects;
  - k) Establishment of a strategic national transport network consisting of complementary roads, railways, ports, and airports that serve medium and long-distance high-density traffic between key cities and municipalities, economic hubs, international gateways, and major corridors in urban centers;
  - l) Establishment of food security infrastructure that will ensure the smooth flow of cargo across the archipelago shall be emphasized;
  - m) Prioritization of the development of mass public transportation to reduce dependence on private vehicles;
  - n) Adoption of inclusive mobility designs through the provision of a network of protected bicycle lanes, sidewalks, at-grade and elevated walkways, and green and open spaces;
  - o) Incorporation of appropriate infrastructure risk management measures, including risk identification, allocation, and mitigation, in project development and management;
  - p) Adoption of green and sustainable design, climate change adaptation and disaster resilience measures, as well as updated strength, safety, health and environmental standards in the design and construction of infrastructure projects;
  - q) Preferential use of quality construction materials that have a high domestic content, especially those that use sustainable materials and appropriate technology;
  - r) Prioritization of multi-sectoral, multi-modal and area-wide development projects to take advantage of their synergistic effects, and where feasible, provide common underground ducts for utilities, and synchronize timelines for their installation and maintenance; and
  - s) Strict monitoring and evaluation of project completion of all functional features.
- Sec. 7. Contents of the CIDMP. – The CIDMP shall contain the following:
- (a) A report on the long-term vision for infrastructure, which shall support and be consistent with long-term socio-economic goals;
  - (b) An analysis of projected economic growth and demographic trends;

(c) Reports on the integrated and holistic strategies for the development of the following infrastructure sub-sectors:

1. Land, Air, and Sea Transportation and Logistics;
2. Energy;
3. Water;
4. Information and Communications Technology (ICT);
5. Social Infrastructure, such as housing, health and education;
6. Agri-Fisheries Modernization and Food Logistics Infrastructure Program; and
7. Asset Preservation and Maintenance Strategies.

(d) Indicative projects, timelines for expected phases of implementation estimated funding requirements and financing modalities for each of the infrastructure sub-sectors.

Sec. 8. Masterplan for Infrastructure and National Development (MIND) Council.

– The MIND Council is hereby established to lead the preparation and revision of the CIDMP. The Economy and Development Council (ED Council) shall ensure that the CIDMP shall be mainstreamed into all phases of the Planning-Programming-Budgeting process and operationalized in all of the major documents involved, including but not limited to the:

- a) Philippine Development Plan (PDP) and the Regional Development Plans (RDPs);
- b) Public Infrastructure Plan (PIP);
- c) Three-Year Rolling Infrastructure Plan (TRIP); and
- d) National Expenditure Program (NEP), Budget of Expenditure and Sources of Financing (BESF), Annual General Appropriations Act (GAA) and their supporting documents.

Sec. 9. Composition of the MIND Council. – The MIND Council shall be composed of the following:

- a) President of the Philippines, as Chairperson;
- b) Secretary of the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev), as Vice Chairperson;
- c) Secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), as Member;
- d) Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF), as Member;
- e) Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), as Member;

- f) Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOTR), as Member;
- g) Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE), as Member;
- h) Secretary of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), as Member;
- i) Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA), as Member;
- j) Secretary of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), as Member
- k) Secretary of the Department of Tourism (DOT), as Member;
- l) Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), as Member;
- m) Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), as Member;
- n) Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), as Member;
- o) Presidents of the Local Government Unit (LGU) Leagues, as Members; and
- p) Five (5) Industry Stakeholders, as Members.

The representatives from the Industry Stakeholders shall be appointed to represent the infrastructure sub sectors enumerated under Section 7 of this Act and shall be selected from among their respective ranks based on the criteria and mechanisms to be set for this purpose by the Council.

The Secretary of DEPDev may preside as Chairman in cases where the President is unable to attend a meeting and in the absence of any Presidential preference. The President, however, shall continue to have the power to designate from among the members of the Council the Chairman, who can appropriately represent the President, to preside over specific meetings. The Department Secretaries may not designate alternate representatives other than their respective undersecretaries to the meetings of the Council.

The council shall meet at least once every quarter or as often as necessary.

The Council shall engage other government agencies and instrumentalities, as may be necessary.

**Sec. 10. Powers and Functions of the MIND Council.** – The MIND Council shall have the following powers and functions:

- 1 a) Formulate the CIDMP that will serve as a blueprint for national and regional  
2 investment planning;
- 3 b) Coordinate infrastructure investments, planning, and implementation that  
4 promotes collaboration among key actors;
- 5 c) Establish mechanisms to monitor the progress and implementation of  
6 infrastructure projects under the CIDMP, ensuring accountability and timely  
7 completion;
- 8 d) Review and streamline all existing policies among government agencies in the  
9 formulation of plans, programs, and projects for the development of the  
10 infrastructure sub-sectors under Section 7 of this Act;
- 11 e) Consult with major stakeholders from the private sector, including but not limited  
12 to the business groups, LGUs, civil society organizations, and non-government  
13 organizations;
- 14 f) Submit to Congress the CIDMP and such other reports as may be necessary;
- 15 g) Recommend to Congress proposed legislations to fully implement the CIDMP; and
- 16 h) Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the effective discharge of its  
17 mandate.

18 In addition to the foregoing powers and functions, the Council may form a  
19 consultative and advisory committee. This committee shall comprise individuals with  
20 proven expertise in but not limited to urban planning, engineering, environmental  
21 sustainability, infrastructure and economic development, social and community  
22 development, housing, technology, public health, education and culture, and disaster and  
23 emergency management.

24 Sec. 11. Secretariat to the MIND Council. – The DEPDev shall serve as the  
25 Secretariat and shall provide administrative, operational, and technical support to the  
26 Council. Pursuant to the policies, strategies, and other provisions in this Act, the DEPDev  
27 shall, in coordination with concerned agencies and stakeholders, be responsible in the  
28 formulation of the detailed CIDMP and integrated framework, including its medium-term  
29 strategic plans and programs.

30 The DEPDev, in coordination with concerned agencies and stakeholders, shall be  
31 responsible for the update of the CIDMP as well as its regular monitoring and evaluation,

1 including the physical and financial performance of implementing agencies, and the  
2 socio-economic impact of program accomplishments.

3       Sec. 12. Role of Implementing Agencies. – Implementing agencies involved in the  
4 development of the transport and logistics, energy, water resources, ICT, social, asset  
5 preservation and maintenance strategies, and agri-fisheries modernization and food  
6 logistics shall perform the following responsibilities:

- 7       a) Prioritize and fast-track the implementation of infrastructure projects in  
8       accordance with the CIDMP;
- 9       b) Develop a national transport system with the following characteristics: efficient in  
10       facilitating mobility, safe, secure, economical, accessible, affordable,  
11       environmentally sustainable, user-oriented, reliable, convenient, integrated, and  
12       seamless;
- 13       c) Plan and implement transport projects within the context of the entire supply  
14       chain and logistics system that is facilitating of both traditional and electronic  
15       commerce, through a seamless and demand-responsive intermodal transport  
16       network that shall link production areas with processing, warehousing, transport  
17       and transshipment hubs, and markets, and ensure unimpeded flow of people,  
18       goods, services, disaster response equipment, relief goods, and basic commodities  
19       in times of emergencies;
- 20       d) Optimize the use of funds through efficient transport infrastructure maintenance  
21       and asset management, including applicable demand management;
- 22       e) Improve road-based people-oriented transport to address traffic congestion  
23       through engineering, enforcement and education;
- 24       f) Improve operational efficiency of airports and address constraints to their optimal  
25       capacity utilization;
- 26       g) Improve port facilities to ensure that inter-island shipping, including a stronger  
27       roll-on roll-off (RORO) network, as a viable option for transporting people and  
28       cargo;
- 29       h) Support investments and fast track implementation of infrastructure projects to  
30       improve power generation, transmission and distribution;
- 31       i) Encourage competition to drive down electricity costs;

- 1 j) Promote and develop alternative sources of power, including renewable energy and  
2 other clean energy technologies;
- 3 k) Ensure efficient transmission of electricity to various load centers and interconnect  
4 the entire grid;
- 5 l) Prioritize the provision of off-grid, stand-alone, renewable technology to the  
6 remaining unelectrified off-grid, island, remote, and last-mile communities;
- 7 m) Implement energy infrastructure projects in accordance with the policies and  
8 programs of R.A. No. 112851 or the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act of  
9 2019;
- 10 n) Promote the deployment of clean, efficient and smart energy technologies and  
11 establishment of the necessary infrastructure and regulatory support for these  
12 technologies;
- 13 o) Pursue reforms that will address the fragmented structure of water resources  
14 management;
- 15 p) Optimize the development and use of water resource potentials for irrigation,  
16 hydroelectric power, water supply, and flood control;
- 17 q) Pursue institutional reforms such as streamlining processes to facilitate  
18 investments in water supply, sewerage system and sanitation services;
- 19 r) Intensify flood control in major river basins, principal rivers, and urban centers,  
20 combining structural or engineering intervention works with non-structural  
21 measures on an area or river system-wide basis, with priority on areas with high  
22 risks of flooding;
- 23 s) Pursue reforms in digital infrastructure, including but not limited to streamlining  
24 process for permits, to complement the national broadband plan geared towards  
25 increasing internet access in unserved and underserved areas;
- 26 t) Expand the deployment of ICT infrastructure and address gaps in digital  
27 connectivity and promote digital trade;
- 28 u) Enhance the e-government system as a vital tool for good governance, including  
29 the improvement and integration of various database and software management  
30 systems within and across different sectors and government bodies;
- 31 v) Ensure and improve cybersecurity by investing in robust systems and key  
32 management resources;

1 w) Prioritize implementation of climate-smart and resilient infrastructure in all sub-  
2 sectors of agri-fisheries modernization and food logistics, energy, water resources,  
3 social, transport, and ICT infrastructure investments; and

4 x) Perform other functions as may be necessary towards the effective implementation  
5 of this Act.

6 Sec. 13. Consideration of Approved National Infrastructure Projects. – The  
7 infrastructure projects approved by the ED Council before the effectivity of this Act shall  
8 be given due consideration in the formulation and implementation of the CIDMP.

9 Sec. 15. Joint Congressional Oversight Committee (JCOC). – A Congressional  
10 Oversight Committee is hereby created to monitor and oversee the implementation of this  
11 Act. The Committee shall be composed of six (6) members from the Senate and six (6)  
12 members from the House of Representatives. The JCOC shall be headed by the  
13 Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs and Committee of Public  
14 Works, and the Chairperson of the House Committee on Economic Affairs and Committee  
15 on Public Works and Highways. The other members of the Committee shall be designated  
16 by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House, respectively. The Minority shall  
17 have at least two (2) representatives from both chambers.

18 Sec. 16. Appropriations. – The amount needed for the initial implementation of  
19 this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the  
20 departments/agencies concerned. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the  
21 continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General  
22 Appropriations Act.

23 Sec. 17. Implementing Rules and Regulations . – Within ninety (90) days of the  
24 approval of this Act, the Council, in consultation with stakeholders from the public and  
25 private sector, including local government units, business groups, community  
26 organizations, and non-government organizations, shall formulate the implementing  
27 rules and regulations necessary in effectively implementing the law.

28 Sec. 18. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared  
29 unconstitutional, the remainder thereof shall remain in full force and effect.

30 Sec. 19. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, letters  
31 of instruction, proclamations or administrative regulations that are inconsistent with the  
32 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

1           Sec. 20. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the  
2 completion of its publication in the Official Gazette, or in a newspaper of general  
3 circulation.

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5           Approved,