



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6557**



Introduced by Honorable Roger G. Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines, as an archipelagic nation of more than 7,100 islands, depends on an efficient, integrated, and resilient transport system that seamlessly connects land, sea, and air. Yet, after decades of piecemeal planning, the country continues to suffer from the following chronic problems:

- Fragmented and overlapping planning among dozens of agencies (DOTr, DPWH, PPA, CAAP, MARINA, NEDA, LGUs, etc.);
- Absence of a single, statutory, long-term multi-modal master plan that survives changes in administration;
- Persistent silos between road/rail projects, port development, and airport modernization;
- Weak inter-modal connectivity (e.g., ports not linked to railways or airports, absence of common ticketing, poor last-mile access).
- Recurring budget inefficiencies caused by politically driven, unprioritized “pet” projects;
- Vulnerability of transport infrastructure and operations to climate change and natural disasters; and
- Lack of uniform safety, accessibility, and sustainability standards across all modes.

This bill seeks to address these concerns. Therefore, passage of this bill is hereby being earnestly sought.

ROGER G. MERCADO



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HOUSE BILL NO. 6557

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AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING THE UNIFIED NATIONAL TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE
AND OPERATIONS MASTER PLAN (UNTIOMP) COVERING LAND, SEA, AND
AIR TRANSPORT MODES, CREATING THE NATIONAL TRANSPORT
PLANNING AND COORDINATING AUTHORITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Unified National Transport Master Plan Act of 2025”.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State shall pursue a safe, seamless, sustainable, resilient, and inclusive national transport system by adopting a single, statutory, multi-modal Unified National Transport Master Plan (UNTMP) that integrates land transport (road, rail, and active transport), maritime and sea transport (ports, shipping, and roll-on/roll-off), and air transport (airports and air navigation services) into one coherent framework that transcends changes in administration.

SECTION 3. The Unified National Transport Master Plan (UNTMP). – Within eighteen (18) months from the effectivity of this Act, the National Transport Planning and Coordinating

Authority shall formulate a rolling 30-year Unified National Transport Master Plan (UNTMP), to be updated every five (5) years, containing at least the following components:

- a. Integrated network planning and demand forecasting for road, rail, maritime (ports & shipping routes), air (airports & air routes), and active transport, and pipeline transport;
- b. A single, prioritized, multi-modal infrastructure project pipeline with timelines, cost estimates, and identified funding sources;
- c. Seamless inter-modal connectivity standards (e.g., port–rail–airport–highway linkages, common ticketing, baggage transfer);
- d. Unified design, safety, security, and universal accessibility standards across all modes;
- e. Integration of domestic and international maritime and air gateways into the national logistics chain;
- f. Modernization roadmap for the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), and Civil Aviation Board (CAB);
- g. Climate change adaptation, disaster resiliency, and decarbonization strategies for all modes;
- h. Integration with national spatial strategy, land-use plans, and the Philippine Development Plan.

SECTION 4. Creation of the National Transport Planning and Coordinating Authority (NTPCA). There is hereby created the National Transport Planning and Coordinating Authority, attached to the Office of the President, composed of:

Position	Role
Secretary of Transportation (DOTr)	Chairperson

Position	Role
Secretary of Public Works & Highways (DPWH)	Co-Chairperson
Secretary of Socio-Economic Planning (NEDA)	Vice-Chairperson
Secretary of Finance (DOF)	Member
Secretary of Budget & Management (DBM)	Member
Head, Philippine Ports Authority (PPA)	Member
Director-General, Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP)	Member
Administrator, Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA)	Member
Three (3) representatives from private sector, transport operators, and academe (appointed by the President for 6 years)	Members

The NTPCA shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a. Formulate, update, monitor, and enforce compliance with the UNTMP;
- b. Resolve jurisdictional overlaps and project conflicts among DOTr, DPWH, PPA, CAAP, MARINA, LTFRB, LTO, PNR, LRTA, etc.;
- c. Recommend to Congress the multi-year National Transport Infrastructure and Operations Budget covering land, sea, and air modes;
- d. Establish or recognize Metropolitan, Regional, and Island-Group Transport Authorities as needed.

SECTION 5. Mandatory Alignment. – All national agencies, government-owned and controlled corporations (including PPA, CAAP, MARINA, PNR, LRTA, LRMC, etc.), government financial institutions, and local government units shall align their plans, programs, projects, and budgets with the UNTMP. No major transport project (land, sea, or air) shall be funded or implemented unless included in or consistent with the current UNTMP.

SECTION 6. Funding. – a. Initial funding shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DOTr, DPWH, PPA, and CAAP. b. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act under a separate “Unified National Transport Program” budget line that covers all modes.

SECTION 7. Penal Clause. – Any public official who approves or implements a major transport project not aligned with the UNTMP shall be administratively liable.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder shall remain in force.

SECTION 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified.

SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,