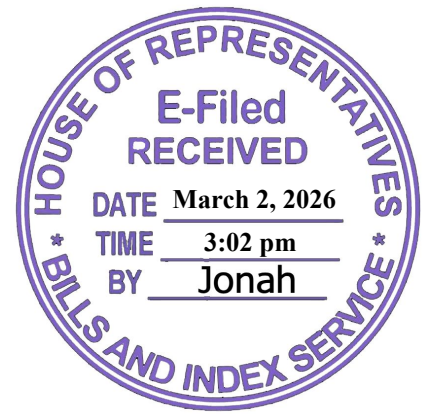


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8201**



Introduced by Representative ERIC G. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to mandate a comprehensive nationwide inspection of buildings and to strengthen the enforcement mechanisms under Presidential Decree No. 1096, the National Building Code of the Philippines. Recent consecutive earthquake events in the country sparked renewed concern over the ability of homes, workplaces, and public structures to endure strong ground shaking. Each significant tremor renews the call to strengthen oversight and ensure that all buildings are designed, constructed, and maintained with safety as the foremost priority.

Professionals in the field have long noted that many structural failures trace back to weaknesses in regulatory supervision, particularly when permits, and other related documents are issued without proper verification, or when reviews are conducted carelessly. When authorizations are granted without the necessary diligence, owners and builders proceed with construction under assumptions of compliance that may not actually exist, putting lives and property at risk.

This measure responds directly to these concerns by mandating a systematic inspection effort and imposing firmer sanctions on officials who neglect their duties or engage in fraudulent acts. Strengthening these safeguards is essential to improving disaster preparedness and ensuring that the built environment can withstand natural hazards.

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


HON. ERIC G. YAP

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8201**

Introduced by Representative ERIC G. YAP

AN ACT

STRENGTHENING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1096, THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED, BY MANDATING A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONWIDE INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS AND IMPOSING STIFFER PENALTIES AGAINST BUILDING OFFICIALS WHO VIOLATE THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THE SAID CODE

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

Section 1. *Inspection and Clearance.* — The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), and all leagues of Local Government Units shall, within three (3) years from the effectivity of this Act, initiate and conduct a comprehensive inspection of all buildings nationwide, and consequently cause the issuance by the Building Officials concerned the corresponding Certificate of Inspection and Clearance stating, among others, that the building so inspected conforms with the provisions of Presidential Decree (PD) No. 1096, as amended.

SEC. 2. *Reportorial Requirement.* — The result of the comprehensive inspection under Section 1 hereof shall be contained in a report to be submitted to the Office of the President and Congress with recommendations on how to improve and strengthen further PD No. 1096, as amended.

SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — The DPWH, the NDRRMC and the DILG shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Penalty.* — Building Officials, as defined under PD 1096, as amended, who shall fail to or falsely issue building permits, clearances, certificates or certifications relative to their functions as such shall suffer the penalty of at least six (6) years imprisonment, absolute perpetual disqualification to hold office and permanent revocation of their professional license.

For the purposes of this section, *False Issuance* shall refer to any form of misrepresentation, deceit, machination or fraud in the inspection of buildings and issuance of permits, clearances, certificates or certifications pursuant to PD 1096, as amended, or this Act.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause*. – If any portion or provision of this Act is subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations and/or administrative regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified, superseded or repealed accordingly: *Provided, however,* That nothing in this Act shall be construed as repealing or amending the current standards set forth under PD No. 1096, as amended.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes first.

Approved,