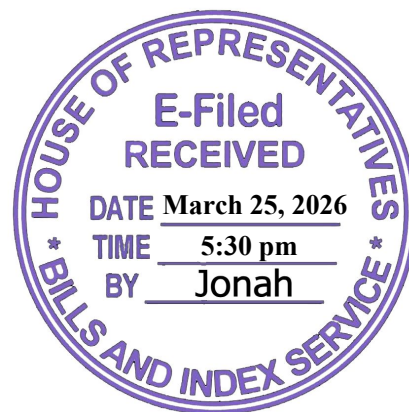


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **8786**



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Introduced by **REP. NATHANIEL “Atty. Nat” M. ODUCAO**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Investment is a key driver of economic growth, employment generation, and technological development. Strategic investments—particularly those involving infrastructure, advanced industries, and sustainable technologies—can produce significant economic spillovers and contribute to long-term national development.

Despite ongoing reforms, investors in the Philippines continue to face regulatory and administrative barriers that delay the implementation of major projects. Large-scale investments often require permits and approvals from multiple national government agencies and local government units, resulting in fragmented procedures and prolonged processing timelines. At the same time, foreign investment inflows remain modest compared with regional peers. Data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) show that the Philippines recorded approximately USD 8.93 billion in foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows in 2024, highlighting the importance of strengthening the country’s investment climate and improving regulatory efficiency to attract greater investment.

International experience demonstrates that countries competing for strategic investments have adopted streamlined regulatory systems to accelerate project approvals. Neighboring economies in Southeast Asia have implemented centralized investment facilitation mechanisms and single-window approval systems to reduce administrative burdens and expedite investment processes.

Recognizing these challenges, the Philippine Development Plan 2023–2028 underscores the need to improve the country’s investment facilitation framework and strengthen coordination among government agencies involved in investment approvals. Facilitating the timely implementation of strategic investments will support infrastructure development, promote industrial diversification, generate high-value employment, and enhance the country’s global competitiveness.

This measure therefore seeks to establish Green Lanes for Strategic Investments, supported by a One-Stop Action Center for Strategic Investments (OSAC-SI) under the Department of Trade and Industry – Board of Investments. The proposed mechanism will streamline the processing of permits, licenses, certifications, and authorizations across national government agencies and local

government units by establishing dedicated green lanes and improving inter-agency coordination.

By institutionalizing an efficient and integrated investment facilitation system, this bill aims to accelerate the implementation of priority investment projects, strengthen investor confidence, and position the Philippines as a more competitive destination for both domestic and foreign investments.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Oducado', with a small circular stamp containing the number '8' to the right.

**REP. NATHANIEL “ATTY. NAT” M. ODOCADO**  
1Tahanan Party List

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING GREEN LANES FOR STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS**

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

1       **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Green Lanes System for*  
2 *Strategic Investments Act.*”

3       **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to: It is the  
4 policy of the State to promote and facilitate investments in the country, particularly those that are  
5 aligned with the Philippine Development Plan or any similar national development plan and can be  
6 characterized by significant capital or investment to the country, consequential economic impact,  
7 positive impact on the environment, significant contribution to the country's balance of payments,  
8 and improvement in the country's infrastructure capabilities. To achieve this, it is necessary to  
9 establish a One-Stop Action Center for Strategic Investments to streamline and expedite the  
10 issuance of permits, licenses, certifications, or authorizations.

11       **SEC. 3. Coverage.** This Act covers all national government agencies (NGAs) and their  
12 regional and provincial offices, government-owned or -controlled corporations (GOCCs), and  
13 other government instrumentalities, as well as local government units (LGUs), involved in the  
14 issuance of permits, licenses, certifications or authorizations (collectively referred to herein as  
15 "permit/s and/or license/s") covering Strategic Investments specified under Section 2 hereof.  
16

17       **SEC. 4. Strategic Investments.** Strategic Investments are those which are aligned with the  
18 Philippine Development Plan or any similar national development plan; and can be characterized  
19 by the significant capital or investment to the country; consequential economic impact; positive  
20 impact on the environment; significant contribution to the country's balance of payments; with  
21 complex technical processes and engineering designs; and will bring about improvement in the  
22 country's infrastructure capabilities.

23       For purposes of this Act, Strategic Investments shall include, but shall not be limited to,  
24 the following:  
25

- 26       a) Highly Desirable Projects. Investment Projects recommended by the Fiscal  
27       Incentives Review Board to the President for modification of incentives or the

crafting of the appropriate financial support package based on defined development strategies for creating high-value jobs, building new industries to diversify economic activities, and attracting significant foreign and domestic capital or investment, and the fiscal requirements of the activity or project, as provided under Section 301 of RA No. 11534 or the "*Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act.*"

- b) Foreign Direct Investments. Foreign Direct Investments are those resulting from the implementation of the Foreign Investment Promotion and Marketing Plan, as endorsed by the Inter-Agency Investment Promotion Coordination Committee.
- c) Projects or activities under the Strategic Investment Priority Plan (SIPP). Local or foreign investments on activities considered projects of national significance or highly desirable, and which falls under the priority sectors or industries included in the SIPP formulated by the Department of Trade and Industry-Board of Investments (DTI-BOI) and approved by the President in accordance with Section 300 of RA No. 11534. These projects cover registrations under the DTI-BOI or other Investment Promotion Agencies.

**SEC. 5. *Single Point of Entry.*** Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the DTI-BOI shall establish a One-Stop-Action-Center for Strategic Investments (OSAC-SI), which shall serve as the single point of entry for all projects qualified as Strategic Investments.

The OSAC-SI shall address investor concerns starting with identifying and designating an investment as Strategic Investment under this Act and endorse the same to concerned NGAs, LGUs, and/or quasi-judicial bodies for processing of permits and licenses, and monitoring and reporting of actions taken thereon. The OSAC-SI shall include aftercare or post-investment assistance as part of its services.

Within three (3) months from the issuance of this Act, the DTI-BOI shall produce and regularly update, an investor manual or guidebook or its equivalent, containing the list of government requirements for the establishment of Strategic Investments per sector, as well as the concerned NGAs, LGUs or quasi-judicial bodies issuing the relevant permits and licenses.

The DTI-BOI will be supported by additional manpower, including the designation of Account Officers for Strategic Investments, as well as the equipment necessary to operationalize the OSACSI, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management.

**SEC. 6. *Green Lanes for Strategic Investments.*** The concerned NGAs, including their regional and provincial offices when applicable, LGUs, and quasi-judicial bodies shall establish or designate, whichever is applicable, a Green Lane within their offices in charge of expediting and streamlining the processes and requirements for the issuance of permits and licenses of Strategic Investments endorsed by the OSAC-SI. The said Green Lane shall be integrated and shall not be duplicative of the existing one-stop shops or one-stop action centers established under existing laws such as, RA No. 11534, RA No. 11234 or the "*Energy Virtual One-Stop Shop Act,*" and RA No. 11032.

1 For this purpose, the above agencies or offices shall designate an account officer for the  
2 Green Lane, who is responsible for coordinating with the OSAC-SI, relevant government offices  
3 or agencies in streamlining and simplifying business permitting and licensing processes, and  
4 recommending modifications or amendments to existing procedures that are outdated, redundant,  
5 and adds undue regulatory burden and cost to the transacting public, in coordination with the Anti-  
6 Red Tape Authority (ARTA).

7  
8 **SEC. 7. Action on the Application.** NGAs and LGUs shall act on the applications for the  
9 issuance of a permit or license within the prescribed processing time provided in the concerned  
10 agency or LGUs Citizen's Charter (original period), which shall not be longer than three (3)  
11 working days in the case of simple transactions, seven (7) working days in the case of complex  
12 transactions, and twenty (20) working days for highly technical transactions from the date the  
13 complete application was received. The said prescribed maximum processing period may be  
14 extended only once for the same number of days, provided the same is indicated in the Citizen's  
15 Charter (extension period), pursuant to Rule VII, Section 3(b) of the Implementing Rules and  
16 Regulations of RA No. 11032. In all cases, denial of such application shall be made in writing  
17 within the same period prescribed.

18  
19 Consistent with Section 10 of RA No. 9485, as amended, the complete application for the  
20 issuance of a permit or license shall be deemed approved in case of failure of the NGA or LGU to  
21 act, whether to approve or disapprove, on said application. An application shall be considered  
22 "complete" when all the documentary requirements indicated in the respective Citizen's Charters  
23 are submitted and the required fees and charges are duly paid.

24  
25 Imposition of additional requirements other than those listed in the Citizen's Charter and  
26 imposition of additional costs not reflected in the Citizen's Charter shall be punished in accordance  
27 with Sections 21 and 22 of RA No. 9485, as amended. However, with respect to applications for  
28 registration and tax incentives under RA No. 11534, the same shall not be deemed approved in case  
29 of failure of the NGA or LGU to act on said applications.

30  
31 **SEC. 8. Issuance of Permits and Licenses.** After the lapse of the original or extension  
32 period under Section 7 of this Act, the NGA or LGU shall issue the requested permit or license,  
33 otherwise, the DTI-BOI shall endorse the case to the ARTA. Upon receipt of the endorsement,  
34 together with the presentation of the acknowledgment receipt and/or official receipt of the payment  
35 of the necessary license or permit fees, and other transaction costs, and upon due investigation and  
36 verification that the applicant has indeed fully submitted all necessary documents and paid all the  
37 required fees, the ARTA shall issue a declaration of completeness and order the concerned office  
38 or agency to issue the appurtenant approval, extension, and/or renewal of the license, clearance,  
39 permit, certification, or authorization which is deemed approved pursuant to Section 10 of RA No.  
40 9485, as amended.

41  
42 The above mechanism shall likewise apply to issuance of a license or permit by quasi-  
43 judicial bodies consistent with Rule VIII Section I (b) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations  
44 of RA No. 9485, as amended.

1       **SEC. 9. *Simultaneous Processing of Applications.*** NGAs and LGUs that receive  
2 applications for permits and licenses shall process the same with the presumption that the relevant  
3 documents from other agencies have already been issued consistent with Rule VII Section 3(c) of  
4 the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 9485, as amended. The applicant shall execute  
5 an affidavit of undertaking, using the template prescribed by the DTI-BOI, that it has secured the  
6 relevant documents from specific NGAs or LGUs and/or that it shall submit the complete  
7 documentary requirements within thirty (30) working days.

8  
9       For this purpose, the concerned NGAs and/or LGUs may coordinate with other relevant  
10 offices or agencies to check or verify the status of applications for related permits or licenses to  
11 avoid delay in their own evaluation of applications pending with them. The NGA or LGU  
12 concerned shall then issue the corresponding permits or licenses, with an annotation that it shall be  
13 subject to the completion of requirements covered by the undertaking.

14  
15       **SEC. 10. *Monitoring.*** Each concerned NGA, LGU and/or quasi-judicial body shall submit  
16 to the DTI-BOI monthly updates regarding the status of applications received and acted upon  
17 involving Strategic Investments covered under this Act.

18  
19       **SEC. 11. *Electronic Submission.*** The concerned NGA or LGU shall enable the electronic  
20 submission of application for, and issuance of, license, clearance, permit, certification or  
21 authorization, including payment and issuance of receipts, whenever applicable.

22  
23       All remaining cities and municipalities that have yet to comply with Section I I (c) of RA  
24 No. 9485, as amended, shall facilitate the computerization of their respective business permit and  
25 licensing systems. To this end, the Department of Information and Communications Technology  
26 (DICT) shall make available to LGUs the software for the computerization of the business permit  
27 and licensing system. The DICT, DTI, and Department of the Interior and Local Government  
28 (DILG), shall provide technical assistance in the planning and implementation of a computerized  
29 or software-enabled business permitting and licensing system of LGUs.

30  
31       **SEC. 12. *Technical Working Group.*** A Technical Working Group (TWG) is hereby  
32 created as an oversight body that shall ensure the implementation of this Act. The TWG shall be  
33 headed by the DTI-BOI with the representatives from the following agencies as members: (i) DTI;  
34 (ii) DILG; (iii) Department of Finance (DOF); (iv) National Economic and Development Authority  
35 (NEDA); and (v) ARTA.

36  
37       The TWG shall act on complaints and take appropriate actions, consistent with their  
38 respective mandates, against third-party business consultants engaged by foreign and local  
39 investors who act in violation of RA No. 9485, as amended, or prejudice the interest of the project  
40 proponents and/or the government.

41  
42       The DTI OSAC-SI Account Officers and the action officers of NGAs, LGUs, GOCCs and  
43 other government instrumentalities, shall directly coordinate with each other to ensure the  
44 successful implementation of this Act.

1           **SEC. 13. *Agency Support.*** All concerned NGAs, GOCCs and instrumentalities, and LGUs,  
2 are hereby directed to provide the necessary assistance and support for the successful  
3 implementation of this Act.  
4

5           **SEC. 14. *Reporting.*** The DTI-BOI shall submit regular reports on the implementation of  
6 this Act to both Houses of Congress.  
7

8           **SEC. 15. *Funding.*** The funds necessary to support the operation of the Green Lanes shall  
9 be sourced from the existing budget of the concerned agencies or offices. The funding requirements  
10 of succeeding years shall be included in their respective budgets, subject to the regular budget  
11 process.  
12

13           **SEC. 16. *Sanctions.*** Failure to comply with the provisions of this Act shall be a ground for  
14 administrative or disciplinary sanctions against any erring public official or employee, as provided  
15 under existing laws and regulations, without prejudice to criminal, civil or other related liabilities  
16 under existing laws.  
17

18           **SEC. 17. *Separability.*** If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional,  
19 the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.  
20

21           **SEC. 18. *Repeal.*** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof that are  
22 contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or  
23 amended accordingly. This Act is consistent with and shall not supplant the other streamlining  
24 initiatives of the government covered by previously issued executive orders.  
25

26           **SEC. 19. *Effectivity.*** Notwithstanding the non-issuance of the IRR, this Act shall take  
27 effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
28 circulation.  
29

30           *Approved,*