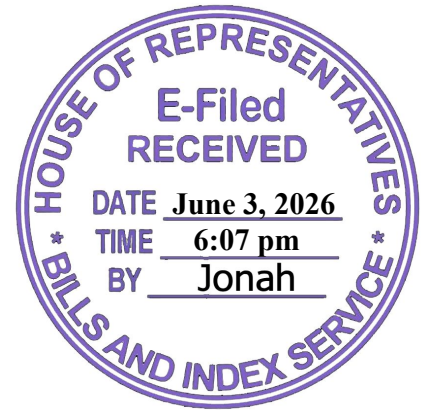


Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9780



Introduced by **HON. BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN**

**AN ACT**  
**REQUIRING THE CONDUCT OF PERIODIC INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE**  
**OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, AND**  
**ALLOWING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS ACCESS**  
**TO THE SITES OR LOCATIONS THEREOF**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

A well-planned and well-built infrastructure system is vital for national development and economic transformation.<sup>1</sup> Every year, the government allocates funding for the construction of roads, bridges, public buildings, and other vital structures. These projects are intended to provide high-quality, safe, reliable, and resilient infrastructure facilities and services that are directly responsive to the everyday needs of the Filipino people.

However, construction is only the first step. The true value of any infrastructure project is found in its longevity and usability. It is necessary to ensure that these public investments do not prematurely deteriorate, and instead remain as long-term assets. One strategy to optimize the use of public funds in relation to these national infrastructure projects is for the government to analyze the life cycle and utilization of said assets.<sup>2</sup> Central to this strategy is the implementation of systematic inspections to accurately identify which projects require maintenance, preventive repairs, or more extensive rehabilitation.

On the ground, however, a critical issue hinders these essential upkeep efforts. The Department of Public Works and Highways face difficulties when trying to access the

<sup>1</sup> <https://pdp.depdev.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Chapter-12.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://pdp.depdev.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Chapter-12.pdf>

sites of existing infrastructure projects, primarily due to land ownership disputes and conflicting or unclear titles and authorities. This problem is especially seen in older public works implemented years ago. Over time, properties may have changed hands or authority over the sites may have become muddled by the involvement of private developers, homeowners' associations, or other private entities. Consequently, structures fall into disrepair because the government is denied entry or access to perform inspections and maintenance works.

While Republic Act No. 12289 or the Accelerated and Reformed Right-of-Way (ARROW) Act was recently enacted to hasten the acquisition of properties for national government infrastructure projects, this does not answer the issue of access to existing infrastructure projects and their rehabilitation or maintenance.

This measure bridges this gap by requiring the Department of Public Works and Highways to conduct regular and periodic inspections of all national government infrastructure projects. The inspections shall be conducted every five to ten years after completion, as determined by the DPWH, based on the project type. Based on the inspection findings, the DPWH shall undertake the necessary maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation measures for these projects. In line with this, the owner or lawful possessor of the site or location of the national government infrastructure projects is mandated to allow access to the national government for the conduct of the regular and periodic inspections and the maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation of said government projects.

By institutionalizing this framework, we elevate the standard for national infrastructure projects and ensure that we do not treat these as disposable commodities, but as long-term investments for our nation's development. Ultimately, we want to safeguard billions in public investments so that taxpayers get their full money's worth out of these projects for years to come.

*In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.*

  
**BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN**  
*Representative*  
2<sup>nd</sup> District of Parañaque

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*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 “National Infrastructure Inspection and Maintenance Act.”

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the proper implementation, continuous maintenance, and upkeep of national government infrastructure projects to guarantee their long-term benefit to the Filipino people.

**SEC. 3. Regular and Periodic Inspection and Maintenance.** – The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall conduct regular and periodic inspections of all national government infrastructure projects. The inspections shall be conducted every five to ten years after completion, as determined by the DPWH, based on the project type. The results of the inspection shall be detailed in a written report made available to the public.

Based on the inspection findings, the DPWH shall undertake the necessary maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation measures for these projects.

**SEC. 4. Grant of Access to the National Government.** – The owner or lawful possessor of the site or location of the national government infrastructure projects

shall allow access to the National Government, through the DPWH and other relevant government agencies, for the conduct of the regular and periodic inspections and the maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation of said government projects.

**SEC. 5. Penalties.** Unjustified refusal to allow access and impede the conduct of regular and periodic inspections and maintenance of all national government infrastructure projects shall be punishable by a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00).

**SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The DPWH shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

**SEC. 7. Separability Clause.** - If any part or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 9. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*