

Policy



Right-of-Way Act

Multiple Sectors

Description

Sets guidelines and a framework of how the government shall ensure that owners of real property acquired for national government infrastructure projects will be promptly paid just compensation for the expeditious acquisition of the required right-of-way projects.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
SB 3004	HB 5588	
Law		
<u>RA 10752</u>		

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	11/09/15	12/09/15	12/14/15	House and Senate bills identical	05/30/16
House of Representatives	03/17/15	05/19/15	05/25/15		

Description

Seeks to address the confusion in the definition of a public utility and public services, which, for several decades, hampered economic growth and foreign investment. It will provide clear definition of public utilities, which will be limited to the following natural monopolies: 1) Distribution of electricity; 2) Transmission of electricity; 3) Water pipeline distribution; and 4) Sewerage pipeline. With this reform the 60-40 rule will no longer be applied to foreign investment in public services.

President Duterte certified the measure as urgent on April 12, 2021.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
<u>SB 2094</u>	<u>HB 59</u>	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	03/10/21				
House of Representatives	08/29/19	02/18/20	03/10/20		

Emergency Powers bill or the Traffic and Congestion Crisis Act

Multiple Sectors

Description

Authorizes the president to exercise powers necessary and proper to carry out needed measures to address the traffic and congestion crisis.

Bill reference

Date updated

Senate

House of Representatives

[SB 1157](#)

[HB 559](#), [HB 3175](#), [HB 3183](#), [HB 3529](#)

May 11, 2021

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	11/07/19				
House of Representatives					

Description

Creates the NTSB, an independent agency attached to the Office of the President which shall be the primary agency responsible for the conduct of impartial investigation on transportation-related accidents and incidents.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	June 14, 2021
SB 1077	HB 9030	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	09/26/19	11/27/19	12/09/19		
House of Representatives	03/21/21	05/26/21	06/01/21		

Description

Strengthens the country's PPP framework. It upholds competitive bidding as the core of government procurement policy and discourages the practice of unsolicited bids and negotiated contracts except for infrequent cases.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
<u>SB 2074</u>	<u>HB 77</u> , <u>HB 1244</u> , <u>HB 4873</u> , <u>HB 5452</u> , <u>HB 6575</u>	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	03/01/21				
House of Representatives	TWG				

*TWG – under Technical Working Group deliberation

Authorizing the President to Expedite the Processing of Permits, Licenses, and Certifications

Multiple Sectors

Description

Grants the President the authority to suspend the requirements for national and local permits, licenses, and certifications, and to streamline and expedite their issuance.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
SB 1844	HB 7884	
Law		
<u>RA 11517</u>		

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	10/07/20	10/12/20	10/14/20	House and Senate bills identical	12/23/20
House of Representatives	10/14/20	10/16/20	10/16/20		

30-Year National Infrastructure Program

Multiple Sectors

Description

Identifies and prioritizes major infrastructure projects of the National Government with the intention of ensuring continuity in the development and implementation of projects for a 30-year period regardless of changes in national and local leadership.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	October 4, 2021
<u>SB 2122</u>	<u>HB 10319</u>	
Law		

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	09/29/21				
House of Representatives					

Description

The bill seeks to create the Philippine Airports Authority which will handle the regulation and operation of airports.. The planned devolution aims to delegate the operating powers of the CAAP as well as abolish the authorities managing international airports, namely the Manila International Airport Authority, Clark International Airport Corporation, Subic Bay Metropolitan Department Airport Department, and the Mactan-Cebu International Airport Authority.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
<u>SB 1490</u>	<u>HB 7976</u>	

Status	Committee Hearing / TWG	Second Reading	Third Reading	Bicameral	Enacted
Senate					
House of Representatives	Approved by Committee				

Description

The bill seeks to address the deficiencies in the supervision and management of the Philippine civil aviation industry and to strengthen CAAP as an agency. Significant amendments in the bill include: increasing the term of the director general to 7 years, exemption of CAAP from the salary standardization law, and enhanced fiscal autonomy.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
SB 2313	HB 8700	

Status	Committee Hearing / TWG	Second Reading	Third Reading	Bicameral	Enacted
Senate					
House of Representatives	Approved by Committee				

Description

Liberalizes international airports other than the Ninoy Aquino International Airport by allowing more foreign carriers to fly and bring in more tourists. Included are: Clark, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo. NAIA not included because of congestion.

Details			Date updated
Issuance No.	Title	Issued	
EO No. 29, s. 2011	<u>Authorizing the Civil Aeronautics Board and the Philippine Air Panels to Pursue More Aggressively the International Civil Aviation Liberalization Policy</u>	03/14/11	November 7, 2018

Description

The reform requires the Department of Energy to lead development and implementation of plans and programs to secure the stability of the energy supply in the country, and cushion the impact of the high price of imported fuels in local markets. The bill assures that energy efficient projects will be included in the Strategic Investments Priorities Plan of the government for 15 years after enactment of the law.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
SB 1531	HB 8629	
Law		
<u>RA 11285</u>		

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	07/31/17	07/26/16	02/05/17	01/30/19	06/04/19
House of Representatives	03/20/18	02/07/18	12/03/18		

Description

EVOSS seeks to streamline and modernize the permitting process for power generation, transmission, and distribution projects in the country. Easing red-tape for power projects can lead to lower costs of electricity.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	March 29, 2019
SB 1439	HB 8417	
Law		
<u>RA 11234</u>		

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	05/09/17	11/21/17	11/27/17	12/13/18	05/20/19
House of Representatives	10/09/18	11/13/18	11/20/18		

Description

Provides a regulatory framework for the development of a downstream natural gas industry to develop the local natural gas industry as the country braces for the impending end of the Malampaya Gas-to-Power Project set to expire on 2024.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
No bill filed	HB 3031	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Second Reading	Third Reading	Bicameral	Enacted
Senate					
House of Representatives					

Description

Seeks to develop the country's midstream natural gas industry by allowing private sector participation across the entire value chain, providing flexibility to the government to adapt to evolving market conditions, and ensuring protection of consumers' interest through transparency, competition, and disincentivizing anticompetitive behavior

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	June 14, 2021
<u>SB 1819</u>	No bill filed	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Second Reading	Third Reading	Bicameral	Enacted
Senate	05/18/21				
House of Representatives					

Executive Order 116 – Creation of Nuclear Energy Program Inter-Agency Committee

POWER

Description

In July 2020, President Rodrigo Duterte signed Executive Order (EO) 116, directing a study on the feasibility of introducing nuclear energy to the Philippines' power generation mix. The EO creates the Nuclear Energy Program Inter-Agency Committee (NEP-IAC) which will be tasked to "revisit the country's policy on nuclear energy and to determine its feasibility as a long term option for power generation."

The NEP-IAC will be chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Energy with the Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology as vice chair. Members of the NEP-IAC will be composed of representatives from the Departments of Environment and Natural Resources, Interior and Local Government, Finance, Foreign Affairs, National Economic and Development Authority, National Power Corporation, National Transmission Corporation, Philippine Nuclear Research Institute and Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology.

The NEP-IAC will evaluate and formulate a national strategy to include a roadmap and timeline in the preparation of a Philippine Nuclear Energy Program. It will also review the existing legal framework, study the viability of nuclear energy, and recommend the necessary steps in the utilization of nuclear energy, as well as existing facilities like the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant.

Details			Date updated
Issuance	Title	Issued	
EO No. 116, s. 2020	<u>Directing a Study for the Adoption of a National Position on a Nuclear Energy Program, Constituting a Nuclear Energy Program Inter-Agency Committee, and for Other Purposes</u>	07/24/20	May 11, 2021

100% foreign ownership in large-scale geothermal exploration, development, and utilization projects

POWER

Description

The Philippines is now allowing 100% foreign ownership in large-scale geothermal exploration, development, and utilization projects. Foreign companies may now have the exclusive right to develop a geothermal resource under the Third Open and Competitive Selection Process (OCSP3) in the awarding of renewable energy service contracts subject to the following conditions:

- It should be large-scale, with a minimum investment cost of US\$50 million, and
- It should be under Financial and Technical Assistance Agreement as provided under the Constitution.

Details			Date updated
Issuance	Title	Issued	
DOE Department Circular No. DC2019-10-0013	<u>Omnibus Guidelines Governing the Award and Administration of Renewable Energy Contracts and the Registration of Renewable Energy Developers</u>	10/01/19	May 11, 2021

Moratorium of Endorsements for Greenfield Coal-Fired Power Projects

POWER

Description

In December 2020, the Department of Energy issued an advisory on a moratorium of endorsement of applications for new greenfield coal-fired power plants. A recent review of the country's power mix revealed the need to increase the share of renewable energy resources and to accommodate the entry of new, cleaner, and indigenous technological innovations.

Existing and operational coal-fired power generation facilities as well as committed and existing projects with expansion plans will not be affected by the advisory.

Details			Date updated
Issuance	Title	Issued	
Memorandum to all Power Sector Stakeholders	<u>Advisory on the Moratorium of Endorsements for Greenfield Coal-fired Power Projects in Line with Improving the Sustainability of the Philippines' Power Industry</u>	12/22/20	May 11, 2021

Description

The bill seeks to abolish the Road Board which was created by RA 8794 to administer tax revenue from vehicle registration fees to be used to repair and upgrade the nation's roads. However, the funds – currently at PhP 45 billion - were often spent and misspent without proper oversight or Congressional appropriation. Legislation to abolish the Road Board passed both Senate and House in 2018, but the House withdrew its approval under the new leadership of Speaker Arroyo.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
SB 1620	HB 7436	
Law		
<u>RA 11239</u>		

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	11/22/17	02/07/18	02/12/18	01/22/19	03/08/19
House of Representatives	03/20/18	03/21/18	01/17/19	(Senate adopted House version)	

Description

The bill creates PHILPORTS to replace PPA and separate the development and regulatory powers of the PPA by giving development powers to MARINA.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
No bill filed	HB 4317	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate					
House of Representatives					

Amendments to RA 7925 or the National Telecommunications Commission Charter (NTC)

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Description

The bill expands the powers of the NTC by mandating the agency will be mandated to review and approve the interconnection of telecommunications service providers such as IP peering, infrastructure sharing, and access facilities. It ensures promotion and support to various modalities of interconnecting telecommunications and the internet.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
No bill filed	HB 5973	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate					
House of Representatives					

Description

The bill will lower barriers and cost to entry for data service providers and promotes sharing of infrastructure and efficient use of resources. It aims to bridge the broadband infrastructure gap in the Philippines by bringing in more players in the data transmission sector. The bill also removes the need for a congressional franchise for telecom companies.

DICT is reportedly planning to recommend presidential certification as urgent after final House approval.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	October 5, 2021
SB 45 , SB 911	HB 8910	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate					
House of Representatives	03/05/21	06/01/21	07/29/21		

Description

The bill requires Internet service providers to expand their coverage and set a minimum Internet connection speed.

Bill reference		Date updated
Senate	House of Representatives	May 11, 2021
SB 1831	HB 38 , HB 312 , HB 4132 , HB 4367	

Status	Committee Report Filed	Approved on Second Reading	Approved on Third Reading	Bicameral Conference Committee Report	Signed into Law
Senate	09/14/20				
House of Representatives					

Description

Provides greater market access to satellite Internet by allowing non-enfranchised Internet services providers and value-added service providers direct access to satellites, without going through a telco.

Details			Date updated
Issuance No.	Title	Issued	
EO No. 127, s. 2021	<u>Expanding the Provision of Internet Services through Inclusive Access to Satellite Services, Amending Executive Order No. 467 (S. 1998) for the Purpose</u>	03/10/21	October 4, 2021
Department Circular No. 002 s. 2021	<u>Implementing Rules and Regulations on the National Policy for Expanding the Provision of Internet Services through Inclusive Access to Satellite Services</u>	09/28/21	