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Philippine Association of Multinational Companies Regional Headquarters, Inc.



January 25, 2023

HON. ROMEO M. ACOP

Chairperson, Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
Batasan Hills, Quezon City



Re: NAIA air traffic system glitch inquiry; PTSB creation

Dear Chairperson Acop:



The Joint Foreign Chambers write to urge the House of Representatives to reconsider the bill creating the Philippine Transportation Safety Board and approve the same in the 19th Congress.

The recent incident involving the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) and the alleged faulty air traffic management system has brought air transportation safety – and transportation safety, in general – in the spotlight. It was a strong reminder of the need to pass legislation creating the Philippine Transportation Safety Board (PTSB).



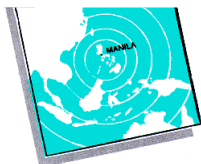
The proposed law seeks the creation of a non-regulatory and independent agency attached to the Office of the President, to be the primary agency responsible for the conduct of impartial investigation on transportation-related accidents and incidents. The main objectives of the PTSB are: (a) to improve transportation safety measures to help prevent transportation accidents and mitigate of dangers to human lives and property; and (b) to upgrade transportation safety standards and create implementing rules to prevent accidents and incidents based on factual scientific findings of past accidents and/or incidents.



Currently, all investigations on transportation accidents are undertaken by the government agencies that have regulatory powers over the respective sector of the transportation industry. Inadequate enforcement of laws and regulations by the agencies concerned is considered as one of the causes of transportation accidents. Because most of these agencies are also tasked to regulate and/or operate the sector, there is also an inherent conflict of interest in the performance of their duties as investigating bodies.



The legislation was approved in both Houses in the previous Congress but was vetoed during the early days of President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr.'s presidency.



We are optimistic that the current Congress can refine the bill so that the reasons cited for the veto can be addressed and we look forward to the enactment of this vital legislation.

Thank you very much for considering our views.



**AMCHAM
PHILIPPINES**

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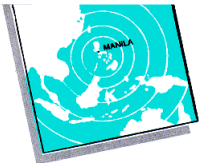
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